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Daily Records of  
**JOHN W. KERR**  
Hamilton, Ontario  
Fisheries Overseer and Inspector  
Southern Ontario, 1864-1888

Presented to  
**ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM OF ZOOLOGY**  
by his son, Charles J. Kerr

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## PISCICULTURE IN THE STATES.

In April, 1868, the Legislature of New York appointed a commission to examine the Fisheries of the State, and to report the result of their labours, with such recommendations as they might have to offer. The Commission consisted of Governor Seymour, Seth Green and R. L. Roosevelt. Their report, which is a pamphlet of 56 pages, contains a great deal of valuable information to all interested in the subject of pisciculture. A class which ought to embrace the whole people of Canada. Ours is the land of the river and the flood, the waters are our high roads, the denizens are our food, the superfluity of which should furnish our commerce with the world. All that can throw light on the subject of raising and multiplying fish is golden knowledge to us and—to paraphrase an old saying—he who can maintain two fish where one is wont to dwell, is a benefactor to his people.

The New York Commission appear to have been especially struck with a fact, which we have before mentioned when speaking of Mr. Wilmot's establishment at Newcastle; namely, the very small proportion of eggs that are hatched when laid by the fish in their natural breeding grounds. Not more than one egg in five hundred, says the report, produces a healthy fish, and not more than one fish in a hundred, say we, arrives at maturity. The number hatched, however, can not be stated in such an arbitrary manner. In some streams the proportion will be much larger than in others, and the presence or absence of a few pairs of ducks or kingfishers will make a difference of thousands. In another point also, we think the Commissioners are wrong. They say that Trout produce 2,000, Salmon 2,000, Whitefish 10,000, and Shad 30,000 eggs to each pound of their weight. All of these figures we believe to be exaggerated; those referring to Salmon more than the others. Mr. Buckland, who is the best English authority on the subject, originally gave Salmon 1,000 eggs as the proportion to each pound of flesh; but afterwards reduced that figure to 600. Mr. Wilmot, who is one of the best authorities on the subject in this country, places the yield of eggs as varying from 500 to 700 per pound, and as his knowledge is theory supported by proof, we may take that estimate as the correct one for the Salmon of this continent.

The Commissioners give their principal attention to the shad, about whose migratory habits there exists a difference of opinion. Shads go to the sea for the winter months, and it is held by some people that the fish remain in the vicinity of their native streams and always return thither when the proper season arrives. Others maintain that they do not; but, mingling together in vast shoals leave the river which they have descended and go away to visit others. The Commissioners endeavoured to settle this point, but failed, though they support the local instinct theory. The eggs of the shad are hatched out in a few days when the young at once make for mid-stream to avoid their enemies lurking about the shore and shallows. This is Mr. Wilmot's theory about our own whitefish. When the young fish disengages himself from the egg, he—unlike the young salmon—dashes off at once to the extremity of the vessel in which he is hatched, and is unceasing in his endeavours to get out of it. From this, as well as from the fact of the young of the whitefish being found in the deep parts of the lake, Mr. Wilmot deduces his opinion that shad and whitefish are alike in this respect. In spite, however, of the wondrous fecundity of the shad—a single fish laying from sixty to eighty thousand eggs—the Commission report that the supply of shad in the rivers James, Potomac, Susquehanna, and Delaware, is gradually failing, and the reason appears to be the unwarrantable way in which the fish are killed. In the Hudson,

## THE PROPAGATION OF FISH.

To the Editor of THE SPECTATOR.

SIR,—The new regulations respecting the Protection of Fish, are all very well in their place, and great credit is due to Mr. Kerr, the indefatigable Inspector of Fisheries, for the manner in which he performs the duties devolving upon him. Since his appointment, he has been the means of increasing not only the quantity but the quality, and size of our fish. Yet, notwithstanding his exertions it is a positive fact that our best lakes are getting greatly thinned out, and to remedy this, is worthy of the consideration of all pisciculturists, and lovers of fish in general. Look how successful Mr. Wilmot has been in Newcastle; and how beneficial his efforts are likely to prove to all classes, as there is no food so ready to the hand of man, as the production of the river, lake or ocean. We in Hamilton have natural means within our power second to none in the world. We have water in plenty, and spawn at our command. Why then are we so indifferent to these advantages? Ought we not to co-operate with the Government and Mr. Wilmot, in their endeavours, and replenish our beautiful Bay, which from the Beach to Dundas, with its feeders, is capable of producing sufficient fish to supply the whole of Canada. The question will naturally be asked. How are we to do this? simply by doing as they do in France, Scotland, England, and in Australia. In the latter place they import the spawn from Scotland, and produce fish by the million. Here, we have the spawn at hand, and no better receptacle could be found on the face of the earth than our own Bay. Will not some of our public enterprising men take the matter in hand and give it a trial? The advantages are so great and the expense so trifling, that it is a great wonder to me that a system of propagation has not been before attempted. The one objection likely to be raised against this project is, that the fish so propagated would be likely to go over to the other side of the lake, and that we should receive but little benefit from it. This may be answered by the fact that fish propagated in the river Tay, in Scotland, after perambulating the German Ocean return again to the river in which they first have their being. This important fact is worthy of notice, as it has been proved, not only in the case of salmon, but in all other cases in which it has been tried, with the same result. This then would effectually answer this objection, and our Bay become the nursery of a good supply of superior fish.

Yours, &c.,

A. READER.

which is the only river of New York where shad are to be found, the same wholesale destruction bids fair to depopulate the river. The fish, in ascending the river, follow the shores in order to strike small streams which they can enter to deposit their spawn. While doing this, they are intercepted by a net which stretches out for a thousand feet; and as they cannot get through the meshes, they are driven into a pond from which they cannot escape. By this means they are captured wholesale. Thousands of other fish are also destroyed in this way, and multitudes of shad, too small to be of value, are also killed and used as manure. The Commissioners also condemn "gill nets" and "drift nets," and recommend that the meshes on all nets be made sufficiently large for the small fish to escape, and that the nets themselves be raised on certain days of the week, in order that a sufficient number of large fish may be saved for breeding purposes. Mr. Seth Green initiated a nursery for the artificial culture of shad in 1867, and the fishermen at the mouth of the river report that young shad are much more numerous than they have been for years.

The trout and whitefish are also spoken of in the report; but no information of immediate value is given. The latter is spoken of as being very easy to hatch; but the Commissioners think the culture of salmon would be expensive and the result doubtful. They add, that some arrangement would have to be made with the Canadian Govern-

## The Fecundity of Fish.

The enormous fecundity of fishes—some of them yield their eggs in millions, and most of them in tens of thousands—has given anglers and others the idea that it is impossible to affect the supplies by any amount of fishing. The female salmon yielded eggs at the rate of 1,000 for every pound of her weight. A fish of twenty pounds, as a general rule, yields 20,000 eggs. As regards the productiveness of a salmon river, the question to be solved is not how many eggs the fish produce, but how many eggs arrive at the stage of table fish, or, in other words, grow to be salmon of say twenty pounds weight.

Well, we have the authority of Sir Humphrey Davy for saying that out of the 17,000 ova which each female salmon annually deposits, only 800 in ordinary circumstances come to perfection. Some fishery economists do not allow that such a large number ever grow to be table fish, and perhaps Sir Humphrey did not mean that the number specified by him became table fish, but merely that they were hatched into life. One writer on this part of the salmon question thinks that only one per cent. of the eggs emitted by the mother fish attain to the point of perpetuating their kind. The destruction of eggs and young fish must therefore be enormous. Large quantities of the eggs, it is known, never come in contact with the milt, and so they perish.

Countless numbers of the ova are carried away by the floods into unsuitable places, and they too perish. Then, again, numerous fish cannibals are waiting at the spawning beds to feast on the appetising roe; the thousands so eaten cannot be calculated, but so they perish. The young fish again, are always in danger, and although a river may be positively swarming with young salmon, comparatively speaking, only very few of them ever live to reach the salt water; all kinds of fresh water monsters are constantly extorting tribute from the shoal. The smolt slaughter which occurs when the juvenile army reaches the sea is awful.

Hordes of large sea fish are always in waiting in the estuaries at the period of migration, instinctively aware of the feast that is in store for them. That only a very small percentage of the young salmon which go down to the sea as smolts ever return as grilse is obvious. Yet that large quantities of grilse are still left is also obvious from the fact that tens of thousands of these fish are annually killed; indeed, the fishery lessee is the greatest enemy of the young salmon. It has been shown very conclusively that grilse are young salmon that have not spawned. Then why kill them? It is surely the worst possible economy to kill these virgin fish before they have at least one opportunity of perpetuating their kind. —St. Pauls.

ment to control the fishermen; and, on the whole, they do not deem it advisable to do anything in the matter of salmon. This is an opinion which will, of course, be altered in time. Salmon are the most valuable, and are not likely to be permanently overlooked by the shrewd Yankee. Already an American firm have obtained a concession from the Legislature of New Brunswick, which enables them to export one-half the ova of a river in that Province, and own the fish of the other half; and as soon as Canadian waters are again re-stocked with salmon, our neighbours will be crying out for salmon in their streams. The importance of fish, as an article of North American commerce, is beginning to be felt by Americans and Canadians alike, and as Canada has, from various causes, a great advantage in the producing market, it will be the fault of our own people if they do not at once take advantage of the bounteous gift of nature, and utilize their vast natural machinery for the production of an article for which there is an endless demand.

HERRING FISHING IN LOCH LONG.—The herring fishing has again sprung up in Loch Long, and the takes there and in the Gareloch have been large, while the size and quality of the fish are improving. On Wednesday, two smacks and a number of skiffs were discharging at West Quay, and the price was only 1s per 100. Fine fish are being caught in Lochfine, where they bring on the spot 3s 6d per 100, but these are nearly all sent off to England, there being scarcely any market for them here or in Glasgow. On Wednesday night, some fine herring were landed at Greenock from Lochfine, and were retailed at two for three half-pence. The market is well supplied with white fish of various kinds. —Greenock Advertiser.



## PROFESSOR AGASSIZ ON FISH CULTURE.

In an address which he recently delivered at Boston, Professor Agassiz argued that 'fish raising' could be made as profitable as any other branch of agriculture—as profitable as cattle raising, as fruit raising, as wheat raising. Of course, cultivators of fish must place themselves in the same position as men who pursue agricultural occupations. He was prepared to say that the time will come when every man who has water on his ground will raise fish for his own table as he now raises fruit. Of course many will be raised for the market, for as long as men find it desirable to eat fish, so long will fish raising be profitable. The business should be encouraged now in every possible way to the limit to which legislative interference is desirable. He desired, too, that the same efforts should be made with reference to the sea fisheries. The ocean covers two-thirds of the surface of the globe, leaving only a third for purposes of cultivation. Artificial cultivation of fish in the ocean should be begun to the exclusion of the more voracious and useless kinds. On land wolves were once as numerous as deer, but they have ceased to exist, and the deer have become very numerous, from the protection afforded to the one and the chase given to the other. The fish enters largely into the requisites of the system. It is a kind of food which refreshes the system, especially after intellectual fatigue. There is no article of food that supplies the waste of the head so thoroughly as fish diet, and the evidence of it is in the fact that all the inhabitants of the sea shores the world over are the brighter population of the country. Fish contain phosphorus to a large extent, a chemical element which the brain requires for growth and health. He would not say that an exclusive use of fish would make a block-head a wise man, but that the brain should not be wanting in one of its essential elements. There was another point of view from which he would advocate these artificial fisheries, and he supposed the mere mention of the subject would excite a smile and appear ridiculous, and yet he would advocate it as an educational measure, as one of the important educational movements of the day, because it would supply the means—the only ready means—of making the people generally acquainted with the mode of growth of animals, with the mode of formation, with the building up of the living being. A few weeks since, when he obtained for the first time a living egg of the salmon, he became aware of the facility with which the growth of the animals might be investigated, and how easy it might be to teach it to everybody, for there is a period in the growth of the egg of a fish when it is impossible to distinguish between the embryo of a human being and any other of the invertebrates. So, then, the artificial breeding of these fish is one of the most important educational movements of the age.

### THE PROPAGATION OF FISH.

A writer in the *Boston Journal*, referring to the experiments of one of the Fish Commissioners of the State of Maine, for the Propagation of Shad, says that in conducting his experiments, he has used some 100,000 eggs with remarkable success. His mode of propagation is as follows: The eggs are gently pressed from the female fish and are fertilized by the milt from the male. They are then placed in a floating apparatus made of a wooden box, at the bottom of which is a wire cloth. This box is deposited in a warm, gentle current in the river, where in about four days the eggs are hatched, and the young fish go free. These experiments have already been the means of turning loose from 30,000 to 40,000 young shad, which by next season will have arrived at maturity, and be ready for capture, either by weirs, seines, or drift-nets. There is no reason why the same method could not be successfully used for the propagation of the finer qualities of fish in which the rivers and smaller streams of Canada formerly abounded, but which have now become extremely scarce. It might result in a vast addition to the natural wealth of Canada.

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WILL SALMON THRIVE WITHOUT EVER VISITING THE SEA.—Mr. Gilmour, Secretary of the West of Scotland Angling Club relates an experiment made in the neighborhood of Hamilton, county of Lanark:—In June, 1862, a member of the West of Scotland Angling Club, procured from Stormontfield, and conveyed to a suitable pond in Renfrewshire, twenty salmon parr, those of the two-year old migration that had not up to that time assumed the silver scale of the smolt. As all the salmonidae are in their youth parr-marked, and some of the varieties indistinguishable, it was of great consequence to have them from Stormontfield, in order to make sure of their being veritable salmon-parr. For four years these fish have been kept incarcerated, and they are now therefore six years old; but as the pond was large and deep it was not known how many remained, or in what state they were, till last Wednesday, when, for the first time, the water was run off. Only three of the fish were found to have survived their long imprisonment. These remarkable specimens were found to be all of the same size, active, healthy, and strong, with the silvery coat and black spots of the salmon, but in all other respects very different indeed from the lordly salmon of their native Tay. They had heads large enough for five pound fish, though they only measured 15 inches in length and 6½ inches in girth, and weighed only 1 pound; probably fish of the same year's hatching are now running up the Tay 25 pounds or 30 pounds. This wretched condition was proved not to be for want of feeding, as, in the same pond, grayling-fry put in last year were found to be already, at only two years, fully ¾ pound fish. This, we believe, is the first well authenticated instance of undoubted salmon being kept for six years in fresh water, and the result seems to negative the French theory as to thriving without visiting the sea, though it certainly proves that the fish does not necessarily die, as was the prevailing counter theory.

## Fish Culture.

To the Editor of THE CANADA FARMER:

SIR,—The subject of Fish Culture is one which is sadly neglected in Upper Canada. In Lower Canada they have Fish Preservation Societies, and Game Protection Societies. Here, we have nothing of the kind.

The Emperor of the French is spending millions of francs annually in stocking the lakes and rivers of France, with a view of supplying a cheap and nutritious food for the people. Salmon and trout spawn are exported in large quantities, and at great cost, to Australia. A writer in your last number enquires whether trout spawn is imported, and where it is to be had. Why should we in Upper Canada import an article of which we have such abundance at our doors? What is better, we have millions of trout in the brooks within ten miles of Toronto! These, however, are the victims of "pothunters" before they reach the weight of four ounces. Two young men of this city went out last week and caught more than 300 of these tiny fish. The river Don and Ashbridge's Bay swarm with fish of various kinds, and among them the best kind of silver eel, a fish more sought after in England than any, except those of the rarer kinds, such as salmon, turbot, soles, &c., &c. There are 500 shops in London, England, where nothing is sold but eels, cooked in a variety of ways. Here, it is with difficulty you can procure a single fish of this nutritious species.

There are a hundred "creeks" within twenty miles of Toronto, where trout might be preserved most easily, and as "Angler" says, would conduce to the amusement and luxury, and profit of the owner. Two days labour would make a dam in some of those creeks, with a run-way for the trout to go up stream to spawn. The 300 murdered trout I wrote of just now, would in two years, weigh from one to three pounds! The water, thus dammed up, could in many cases be made available for irrigation, a subject utterly unknown or neglected in Upper Canada. Canadians, however, know nothing of angling, beyond what consists of a worm at one end and the "pothunter" at the other. Scarcely any one knows how to cast a fly. If one were always sure to have an English regiment here, a Trout Protection Society might soon be raised.

ISAAC WALTON.

NOTE BY ED. C. F.—We think there are enough anglers not of the "pothunter" species, to organize a "Trout Protection Society," irrespective of the military gentlemen, who, while here, would doubtless co-operate in such a scheme. The subject is of sufficient importance, even in an economical point of view to justify effort, and we shall do our part to keep it before the public mind.

### NOTES AND COMMENTS.

THE New York *Sun* says:—"A fish, almost identical with the salt water shad, has during the last two years made its appearance in Lake Ontario."

We should very much like to hear something more of this fish. The shad is a salt water fish, and a most excellent one for table use, and if a tribe identical with the shad can be propagated in fresh water, we should consider the announcement from competent authority a most gratifying piece of intelligence.

THE Tay District Fishery Board, at their last meeting, on motion of Captain Maitland-Dougall of Scotsraig, resolved to apply to the Secretary of State to extend the open salmon fishery season in the Tay from the 20th to the 26th August in each year. By a majority of one it was resolved that the weekly close-time in the Tay be extended below the mouth of the Earn. Mr. Alexander Croll, Superintendent of the Tay Fisheries has been appointed to superintend the experiments at the Stormontfield Ponds, the post rendered vacant by the death of Mr. R. Buist.

PERTH—ROUP OF SALMON FISHERIES.—The following fishings in the Tay and Earn were let in Perth by public roup on Friday. Lady Gray's fishing in the Tay was exposed in separate lots for the fishing season 1869, and brought in the aggregate £3,042, being an advance of rent, as compared with last season, of £276. The Earl of Wemyss's fishing in the Tay and Earn brought £1,895, being a decrease of £106 as compared with season 1868. The Castle Huntly fishings were knocked down at £16; last year's rent, 25s. The Kenmure fishing in the Earn fetched £19; last year's rent, £12. Only one of the Inchyra fishings was let, which brought the same rent as last year, £125.

ILLEGAL FISHING.—Some of the Burnside Beach fishermen persist in fishing with nets in the Bay, contrary to the provisions of the Fishing Act. A summons was issued to-day, for one of the offenders Benjamin Foulds, and his delinquency, will be looked into by the Police Magistrate on Thursday morning.



## Salmon-Breeding Establishment.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

A visit to the Government Breeding Establishment for salmon, on Wilmot Creek, conducted by and under the superintendence of Mr. Samuel Wilmot, a fishery overseer, will amply repay the visitor.

Having heard and read so much during the past three years of this establishment, I concluded to visit it, and, accordingly, I arrived there on Friday last, about 10 o'clock a. m. I found Mr. Wilmot at his post; he was engaged in chasing a little trout in the small stream that led from the stone breeding room to the nursery ponds. This little trout, if not removed, would have made sad havoc amongst the young salmon.

In the reception house I saw upwards of two hundred salmon, varying in size, if in condition, from ten to thirty pounds, a splendid sight to behold.

These two hundred noble fish were in the reception house, and a breeding pond above it.

I give you herewith a description of the fish-breeding establishment at Newcastle, or, more properly, as it will be hereafter better known as Wilmot's Salmon Breeding Establishment, in Wilmot Creek, near Newcastle, on the Grand Trunk Railway.

### THE RECEPTION HOUSE.

It consists of a house 15 by 36, substantially built, and roofed in, fitted up with necessary weirs and other appliances for the safe and comfortable keeping of salmon until they become sufficiently ripe for manipulation. This house is erected upon a narrow cut from the main channel of the Creek; and through which the water is allowed to pass in such quantities as may be required. From the unexpected increase of salmon this fall, and in anticipation of a corresponding increase in future, this building is likely to prove too small, and will require extension.

So much for the reception house. Now for THE BREEDING ROOM, OR HATCHING HOUSE, in which I found at least 500,000 salmon ova, taken from the fish I have referred to, as being still in the reception house just described, and from about twenty others found in Duffin's Creek, near and contiguous to the flour mill of Mr. Smith, near the Grand Trunk Railway Bridge, on this said Creek.

About four years ago, Mr. Samuel Wilmot commenced his operations, with one salmon then in the creek. This season hundreds have spawned naturally at different places in this creek between the establishment and Lake Ontario, which is in distance about two miles; so that this creek may now be said to be re-stocked in an extremely short time with choice salmon. To Mr. Samuel Wilmot a meed of praise is due, and not praise only, but a more substantial mark of approval it is to be hoped will be conferred upon him, by the Hon. Peter Mitchell, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, who takes a very lively interest in the fisheries of the Dominion, and who I was happy to learn, has recently spent some days there to inspect, observe and judge for himself as to the energy and perseverance of Mr. Wilmot.

Having viewed all the living salmon in the receiving-house and the creek; the preserved and stuffed salmon; a salmon trout 46 lbs.; a salmon 27 lbs.; a pickerel; a black bass; a small sturgeon and spent or jowl salmon, after spawning; preserved salmon in good condition; besides a quantity of white fish, five months old, measuring about four inches, hatched out by Mr. Wilmot, and preserved in spirits of wine; the young of salmon, in various stages up to and under a year—besides reviewing the two grill, with the speckled trout, in the purling-stream at the lower end of the breeding-room, I was kindly invited to partake of the hospitality of Mr. Wilmot, and accompanied that worthy gentleman to his residence which is situated about 200 yards from the Breeding Establishment.

I give you herewith a description of the

### BREEDING-ROOM.

Alongside of the reception-house there is erected a substantial stone breeding-room, or cellar, properly roofed in, and made frost-proof. Its size is 20 x 60 inside, with walls seven feet high. In this are placed a series of hatching troughs—longitudinally, where the ova are deposited during incubation; upon the floor above there is sufficient space for a room for an assistant, and for an office.

## DUFFIN'S CREEK.

After dinner I returned by Grand Trunk to Duffin's Creek, where the natural propagation of salmon has been most successful this fall; but not, however, before I had thanked Mr. Wilmot for the great treat—the greatest treat and sight in the fish line I have ever beheld, and which to be described by me is out of the question and beyond my abilities to do. I would, however, recommend every one to go and see for themselves—a pleasure awaits them beyond my description.

On my arrival at Duffin's Creek I waited upon my friend, Mr. Smith, the flour mill owner, situated on the creek near the railway bridge. Mr. Smith accompanied me down the creek, where in the vicinity of the railway bridge are plainly to be seen thirty salmon beds, and in which salmon have recently deposited their ova. About 150 salmon, Mr. Smith stated to me, were seen in this creek during the month of October and first week of November, and a few of them are still in the creek not yet spawned out. Mr. Smith and Wm. Hartrick, Esq., J. P., acted as fishery guardians this fall, of their own free will and accord, and devoted much time and great protection to the salmon, so that not a single one was speared or killed.

The Hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries recently authorized W. J. Whitcher, Esq., of the Fisheries Department, to set apart the waters of Duffin's Creek for the natural and artificial propagation of salmon. This creek, during the long years gone by, had an abundance of choice salmon, but they were speared and killed off. Now for the restocking of Duffin's Creek. I find that J. W. Kerr the Overseer of Fisheries, complained to Brereton, Bunting and Wm. Hartrick, Esqrs., Justices of the Peace for the County of Ontario, on the 16th day of July, 1867, against Messrs. George Lang, John Post, and David O'Neil, for spearing three salmon during the month of October, 1866. They were all fined for the offences they had committed, and the Magistrate read them a good lecture besides.

In the fall of 1867 seven salmon entered the creek and spawned there,—old Mr. John Head acting as guardian under John W. Kerr, the Overseer.

In the fall of 1868 about fifty salmon entered the creek, John Head still acting as guardian. A light, that is, a jack-light, was observed in this creek below the railroad bridge, at the bend of the river, on Saturday, the 7th Nov., 1868. Suspicion pointed strongly to the Peek family, who live upon the creek. On Monday, the 9th of Nov., 1868, J. W. Kerr, the Overseer, made his appearance at Duffin's Creek and challenged and charged Jim Peak with being on the river with the light-jack aforesaid. No more lights, however, have been since seen.

On the 12th of August, 1869, James Shepherd, Frank Mathews, George Dix, senr., George Dix, jr., and Andrew Mason were fined for fishing with nets in Duffin's Creek without a license. On the 12th of August, 1869, James Peek was fined \$20, or one month in gaol, for illegally catching one salmon in Lake Ontario, at the mouth of Duffin's Creek, by Mr. J. W. Kerr, who caught him in the act. And on the 19th of August, 1869, James Peek and John Greenlaw, (his son-in-law), were fined again, and their seine was confiscated, for illegally catching another salmon, Mr. J. W. Kerr being again the complainant. Messrs. McIntosh and Palmer were also fined for allowing sawdust from their mills to pollute the creek; and all this close looking after by the Inspector, aided by the Magistrates at the village of Duffin's Creek, together with the praiseworthy attention of Mr. Smith and Mr. Hartrick, this season and last, have tended to make Duffin's Creek once more a salmon river, and able to give from her natural resources six tin pails full of spawn or over towards the artificial breeding establishment at Wilmot Creek. How much has been done towards restocking this creek by care and attention the public can judge.

The salmon of Duffin's Creek are designated by Mr. Wilmot as first class salmon.

The people in the neighborhood of Duffin's Creek, even those who heretofore wantonly destroyed the salmon, now take a deep interest in their protection.

The penalty for killing a salmon in any river set apart by the Minister, without a written permission from the Fishing Officer in charge, is \$200, or four months' imprisonment.

Mr. Sam. Wilmot was recently attacked by a number of men he caught spearing salmon in his creek. They had their faces blackened, and assaulted him severely. They were, however, fined by a Magistrate for doing so.

They are still to be tried for the illegal fishing, when it is to be hoped justice will be meted out to them in full.

This sketch will show the public, in a plain manner, how our salmon are cared for by the officers and individuals referred to.

**A NEW FISH.**—A strange fish made its appearance in Lake Ontario last season, and this spring it is found in greatly increased numbers, and has evidently become an established inhabitant of the waters. It is described as closely resembling the shad caught in the streams tributary to the Atlantic, in the color and form of its scales, as well as in its osseous structure, and in its delicate flavor when cooked. It differs from that favorite fish only in having a prominence on the head, which the shad has not. But for this slight difference, noticed only by those who have handled the shad a great deal, the stranger would be pronounced of that variety, and nothing else. As it is, nothing is known of its origin, history, or the cause of its sudden appearance.

## LORD LOVELL AND HIS VELOCIPEDE.

### A NEW VERSION.

Lord Lovell he stood by the garden gate  
With his shining velocipede,  
And whispered farewell to his Lady Bell,  
Who wished for his Lordship good speed.

When will you be back, Lord Lovell?" she said  
But he gave to her question no heed—  
Placed his feet in his stirrups, and galloped away  
On his famous velocipede.

Then Lady Bell cried, in frantic alarm,  
"What a monster my Lord is, indeed,  
To ride thus away, from his loving young wife,  
On that horrid velocipede?"

Lord Lovell returned, broken-hearted and sore,  
Broken-armed, and, alas! broken-kneed;  
For he struck on a post, nearly gave up the ghost,  
And smashed his velocipede!

### MCRAE.

Remember the fate Lord Lovell has met,  
Let this be your warning and creed;  
Stay at home with your wife for the rest of your life,  
And beware the velocipede.

## FAITHLESS.

We swung at anchor, where the wave  
showed great sea-banners far below;  
The waters rippled up to lave  
Her hand, that with its bracelet's glow  
Hung toying with the trembling tide,  
That joyed to kiss so fair a wrist;  
In the dim distance waste and wide,  
The white sails glimmer'd through the mist,

There was a silence on the sea,  
A silence that I would not break;  
So sweet that e'en it seemed to me  
To float, and for my lady's sake  
To weave my fancies into rhyme,  
That she would praise some happy day;  
For then no fateful after-time  
Had come to sweep my dreams away.

'Twere well it had been but a dream,  
And yet I trusted in her truth;  
Her soft eyes had an evil gleam  
That flew me, and she knew no truth,  
And still the white sails pass the shore,  
And melt into the purple air;  
But she will watch them never more,  
As faithless as her face was fair.



Shag Page 125



+ Saturday 19, October 1872.

at B. beach, delivered up Men. Goulds. Starring gill nets  
and gave him a license to fish on lot No. 14, in Lake Ontario  
on B. beach - license \$5. not yet paid - also left license for  
Robert Fletcher \$5, went out at 6. p. m. came home at  
11. p. m. Miles 24. Hand buggy. <sup>\$ 4</sup> 2.50. -

+ Monday 21, October 1872,

at Toronto, Georgetown, and Hillsburg, to see Mr.  
George A. Lacey of Hopedale, about killing the  
speckled trout in the creeks of that locality, went  
out at 8. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. Miles 92. -

Ry 2.30. H & Buggies \$4.25. dinner tea and bed \$1. -

+ Tuesday 22, October 1872,

at Hillsburg, and on the beach - see my report,  
examined the fish breeding establishment of Mr. George  
A. Lacey, - thence to the village of Trui to see Mr. Wel-  
lington Hulls - trout breeding establishment - thence to  
Alton - Hand bulkey - miles about 24. - breakfast  
dinner tea and bed \$1. - Horse hire <sup>\$ 4</sup> 2.50. -

+ Wednesday 23, October 1872,

at Alton, Toronto and Home. - Ry fare <sup>\$ 4</sup> 1.55, and <sup>\$ 4</sup> 1.30.  
Horse and Wagon <sup>\$ 4</sup> 2.5, breakfast dinner and tea \$1. -  
Miles 87. - - -

+ Friday 25, October 1872

at Weymouth, Lake Ontario, to see Paddy Hand  
went out at 8. a. m. came in at 4. p. m. Miles  
Railway fare <sup>\$ 4</sup> 90, H & B. <sup>\$ 4</sup> 1.50. Miles 36, dinner <sup>\$ 4</sup> 50

+ Saturday 26, October 1872,

at Toronto and Whitby to see Mr. James Storey  
about his Trial, case disposed of by Mr. Green-  
wood before I got there. The Camerons were  
joined, went out at 8. a. m. back to the  
City of Toronto at 10. p. m. - Miles 104.

Ry fare <sup>\$ 4</sup> 3.30, bulf <sup>\$ 4</sup> 30, dinner <sup>\$ 4</sup> 50 tea and bed <sup>\$ 4</sup> 50  
H & B 1.50.





2  
\* Sunday 27, October 1872,  
At Toronto and the Island. - persons shooting on  
the Island all day. - went down and saw John  
and David Ward, went out at 9. a. m. came in  
at 4. p. m. - miles 6. boat hire  $75^{\text{c}}$ , breakfast dinner, tea  
and bed \$1.00. -

\* Monday 28, October 1872,  
At the Island - Toronto and home, boat hire  $50^{\text{c}}$ ,  
Railway fare 1.30, breakfast  $50^{\text{c}}$ . - miles 46. -

\* Tuesday 29, October 1872,  
At Suspension Bridge and Queenston Heights to  
settle difficulties between Joe Gabriel and John Wards-  
worth, read the fishing law for them, and delivered a  
warning in writing, went out at 8. a. m. came in  
at 3. p. m., miles about 56. - Ry fare. - 1.45. Food  
buggys \$1.50, dinner, tea and bed \$1.00. -

\* Wednesday 30, October 1872,  
At Queenston, Suspension Bridge, Port Erie and  
Dunnville. Thence to Port Maitland to see Henry  
Rofs, a fisherman, who had broken his thigh some  
time back, - went out at 9. a. m. got in at 12.20.  
a. m. miles 70. - Ry fare \$1.90, team  $3.00^{\text{c}}$ , boat  
hire \$2.00, - Mr Rofs getting better.  $1.90^{\text{c}}$  board & bed \$1. -

\* Thursday 31, Oct 1872,  $2.00^{\text{c}}$   $3.00^{\text{c}}$   $1.00^{\text{c}}$  7.90  
At Dunnville, Rainham, and Selkirk, and back  
again to Rainham, went out at 9. a. m. came in  
at 11. p. m., miles 28. - Stage fare \$1.00, \$4  
Buggy \$2.50, board \$1. - Issued licenses today. -

\* Friday 1. Nov: 1872,  
At Sweet's corners, thence for Jacob Pite, High Con-  
stable and from thence proceeded to Wardell's Cr.,  
where I found Irish Wardell, his brother James and a  
younger brother fishing on Isaac Culp's fishing, he  
having complained to me against them for doing  
so, - Culp not wishing to prosecute them. I made  
them pay costs \$2, and take out their license.







brought home seven bags, -- gave of them for presents to the Whitches friends, got home at 2 1/2 p.m. -- breakfast and dinner \$1. --

Friday 8. Nov: 1872. --

At the City and Railway Station delivering the wild ducks -- presents from self and the W. J. Whitches. -- Hand Wagon \$2.00 & Mile 10. --

Sir,

24, October 1872.

I have just returned home from Hillsburg, township of Erin, and County of Wellington, where I found a good many speckled trout had been caught and killed during the past ten days. -- I procured the names of the delinquents, and have made arrangements to make things doubly sure to entrap them. --

I will return there again in the course of ten days and put them through. -- I examined some of the <sup>streams</sup> feeders to Credit River where I saw a large quantity of Trout playing on the spawning beds. --

The trout are generally caught at this season of the year, with grapnel hooks or spears, while playing on the beds. --

Very many respectable people in the neighbourhood, altho' anxious to see the depredators fined, hesitated to give evidence against them. -- I have engaged a faithful man to act for me, who will nab them every one. --

1. Samuel Leeson, Tavern Keeper, gave speckled Trout to Mr. W. St. Land, the Tannery last week. --
2. John Sturd, showed two speckled trout to Mr. Worts, on Saturday last, he took them out of his pocket. --
3. Andrew Rodwell, and the Collins boys fish. --
4. Hugh Walker and John McGee, fish in close time at Subtown. --

Yours Minister

I have &c.

Edmund Ross J. E.

Thames



Sir

24. October 1872,

I have the honor to apply to you in behalf of Mr. Wellington Hull of the village of Erin, in the township of Erin, and County of Wellington, for permission to catch speckled trout in the streams of the said Township, feeders to the Credit River. --

Mr. Hull has a fish breeding establishment near Erin village, and is deserving of the indulgence sought. -- I have therefore much pleasure in recommending to you that the indulgence applied for may be granted immediately for the remainder of this current year (or fall) so as to enable him to get parent fish, and use for his hatching house. --

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kent,

J. Reelger.

Hon. Minister

O. C. H. C.

O. H. H. --



Sir,

19. October 1872.

I have the honor to report and at the same time submit a letter I have just received from Messrs R. J. Boucher, William Baldwin, and R. W. Bots, of Washington, township of Blenheim, in the County of Oxford, requesting me to have fish slides put in in several mill dams situated on Smiths Creek, which empties itself into the Grand River at the Town of Paris in the County of Brant. --

Now before I would ask the department to comply with the request of the applicants, I would have to visit all the mill dams referred to, and inspect them and report thereon. --

George Alexander Esq<sup>r</sup> referred to, is I presume the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Senator, resident at Woodstock. --

The matter is submitted for your consideration and instructions. --

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister  
He. He. He.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr  
A.C.

Washington, 12, October 1872,

John W. Starr  
Overseer of Fisheries,  
Hamilton. --

Dear Sir,

I am informed by George Alexander Esq<sup>r</sup> of Woodstock that it is your duty to see slides put into all the dams so that fish can come up our Creeks and Rivers; I wish you to see that slides are put into the various dams on Smiths Creek. -- There are at present either 8 or 9 dams, between Paris, and the middle of the township of Blenheim, which have none, so that fish cannot get up any higher than Paris. -- Hoping you will



attend to this immediately - We remain  
Yours truly. - Signed

R. J. Bouchier.

William Baldwin.

R. W. Balf. - - -

Sir,

9. November 1872,

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank cheque No: 15, for forty four dollars. - - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows: - for this current year of 1872 &c. -

1. Peter Wardell & Co. - Boat License - to fish 800  
Lots yards of wh: fish gill net in Lake Erie at Rain-  
ham - as per license - Copy herewith. - - - \$ 5.00 &c.
2. Isaac Bulp. Boat license - to fish 2000 yards of  
Lots wh: fish gill nets in Lake Erie at Rainham, as  
19 & 20. - per license - Copy herewith. - - - \$ 8.00.
3. - Messrs George Held & Co, Boat license - to fish  
Lots 600 yards <sup>wh: fish gill net</sup> in Lake Erie at Rainham, as per  
No: 7. - license - Copy herewith. - - - \$ 4.00.
4. - Darius Swartz, Boat License - to fish 700,  
Lots yards of wh: fish gill net in Lake Erie, at  
2, 3 & 4. - <sup>Rainham</sup> Hovers point, as per license Copy here =  
with. - - - \$ 4.00.
5. Messrs Jim: Stone & Co, Boat License  
Lots 84 to fish 900 yards of wh: fish gill net, &  
9. 1 mile in Lake Erie at Walpole, as per Copy &  
postage herewith. - - - \$ 4.00.
6. Wm. Itself. ~~900 yards~~ Boat license to  
Lots fish 900 yards of wh: fish gill net &  
15 and 16. in Lake Erie at Pease Lake, as  
per Copy herewith. - - - \$ 4.00.



7. John Law, Boat license, to fish 2000 yards  
 14 to 21. of wh: fish gill nets in Lake Erie, at Wood-  
 house - Copy herewith. - \$6.00x
8. Patrick Laybe, Boat license, to fish 1800  
 yards of wh: fish gill net, in Lake Erie, at  
 Woodhouse and Charlotteville, as per  
 Copy, herewith. - 5.00x
9. George Hears, Boat License - to fish 1600.  
 yards of wh: fish gill net in Lake Erie  
 at Charlotteville, as per Copy herewith } 4.00
- Total, \$44.00

Hon: Minister,  
 He. He. He.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
 John W. Kent  
 J. K.

\* Monday 11. Nov 1872,

at B. beach giving out license to the licensed  
 fishermen, to fish in B. bay, for Herring, went out  
 at 9. a. m. went to Hamilton - thence to the  
 Beach came in at 5 p. m. Miles 26. - \$48 B. 2.50.

\* Tuesday 12. Nov 1872,

at Weynora to see Paddy Stand went out  
 at 8. a. m. came in at 5 p. m. Miles 36.  
 \$48 Buggy 1.50x, Railway fare. - 90, dinner 40. -

\* Thursday 14 of Nov: 1872.

At Fred Monison gave out spearing licenses to  
 John Anderson, Charles Smith, Charles Milne,  
 Wm. Rasher, M. Lyons, Lewis Mills, Edward  
 Housaco, Thomas Oliver, James B. Smith, J.  
 Kelk, and George J. Simbley, who paid  
 each one dollar, for the privilege of spear-  
 ing herring, went out at 6. p. m. came in  
 at 10.30. p. m. Miles 10. \$48 Wagon 2.50. -



4 Saturday 16. November 1872. -

At Weynora, to see Paddy Stand, about close time,  
and to get a few white fish for Professor Spencer &  
David, of Washington D.C. - got four only, got a  
poor fish. - went out at 8. a. m. came in at  
4. p. m. Miles 34. 14 x 15. 1.50<sup>4</sup>. Ry fare 90<sup>4</sup>. and  
dinner 50<sup>4</sup>. -

Dominion of Canada..

Hamilton, Ontario.

Sir,

18<sup>3</sup>, November 1872. -

I have the honor to receive from the Minister  
of Marine and Fisheries of this Dominion (of Canada)  
recently a circular directing me to procure specimens  
of white fish from those localities of my district sit-  
uated in Lake Ontario, and Lake Erie, and to for-  
ward the same to you; and to ~~accompany~~ accompany  
them by any remarks on their habits and varie-  
ties I may think of interest. - -

In obedience to the instructions<sup>so</sup> received I now  
send you four large white fish, I obtained<sup>for you</sup> in  
Lake Erie, near Port Hope, in the township of  
Woodhouse, County of Norfolk, and Province of  
Ontario, in this Dominion. - - You will find the  
fish, male and female. - -

I also have the honor to send you at the same  
time four smaller white fish, I procured<sup>for you</sup> in Lake  
Ontario, at Weynora, in the township of Sattfleet, in  
the South Riding of Wentworth, Province of Ontario,  
and Dominion of Canada. - I believe you  
will find the latter four fish, also male and  
female. - -

"The white fish at this season of the year,  
"fall and winter" feed on small shell fish,  
this you can ascertain<sup>for</sup> yourself by anal-  
ysing the contents of their stomachs. "In



spring and summer" they feed on a kind of schrimp like insect <sup>and these self same kind of small shell fish</sup> - And from my knowledge and experience I have never known them to change to any other kind of food than those two kinds, now described to you by me. - - -

The white fish spawn, both in Lake Erie, and Ontario, on the Reefs and rocks, during the month of November. - - The eggs dropping into the crevices of the rocks, are protected from <sup>hulled and sturgeon</sup> ~~beavers~~ <sup>fishes</sup> ~~that~~ <sup>always</sup> on the alert at this season of the year, <sup>ready</sup> to devour the eggs or ova. -

The two specimens sent herewith, you will please find by examination differ <sup>materially</sup> from each other, in many respects. - - This you will be able to find out <sup>is the</sup> ~~to be~~ the case, only by close study and observation. - -

The Lake Ontario fish you will find to be a finer and superior fish than the Lake Erie white fish, both in delicious delicacy ~~of~~ <sup>the</sup> flavour and taste, and <sup>in the</sup> whiteness, and richness of the flesh. - - Still as regards the food for this fish in both Lakes, <sup>Erie & Ontario</sup> I have in every instance and on <sup>all</sup> occasions found it the same. -

These fish live by suction. - - - There is an observable difference in the shape of the white fish of Lake Ontario, <sup>when</sup> compared with the shape of the white fish of Lake Erie. - -

Thus! you will please find that the Lake Ontario white fish are rounder and broader on the back, while the Lake Erie white fish are flatter and sharper on the back. - - You can ~~also~~ find out other little differences <sup>by actual</sup> <sup>by comparison this is plain and perceptible</sup> measurements, and ~~the~~ <sup>at the different parts of</sup> the fish of each Lake, <sup>which</sup> I have <sup>only</sup> been <sup>able</sup> <sup>to</sup> <sup>ascertain</sup> <sup>by</sup> <sup>strict</sup> <sup>as accurate position</sup> study to set out, <sup>as facts</sup>.

I have packed the eight white fish <sup>now</sup> send you in Cut straw in a small box, which I understand will preserve



them sufficiently for your purpose, until they reach you at Washington. -- And I shall feel greatly honoured, if your learned views, and researches, will hereafter in any manner correspond with my humble opinions regarding this delicious fish. --

I Have the Honor to be,  
Sir,

Your obedient servant.

John W. Kent,  
Fishing Quays,  
Hamilton, Onto. --

Telegrams, <sup># 4</sup> 1.50, #1.  
Postages, 2.00 - 25¢  
White fish #1. and <sup># 4</sup> 6.50. --



Sir,

25, Nov: 1872,

I have the honor to report for your information, that on Saturday morning last, at Duffins Creek, in the township of Pickering, Benjamin Lock, pleaded guilty to fishing 120 yards of Herring gill net, in Lake Ontario at Shoal pt without a license from the Department of Marine and Fisheries. . . .

Orrenston Bunting Esq J. P. and myself tried this case. - We fined Benjamin Lock, one dollar, and costs, to be paid within one week, and we confiscated the net.

I Have &amp;c

Hon: Minister

John W. Kerr

&amp;c. &amp;c. &amp;c.

Y. O.

Sir,

25, Nov: 1872,

I have much pleasure in submitting to you for consideration, and adoption, the application of Mr Wellington Stull, of Erin Village, in the County of Wellington, who is desirous of having certain property of his set apart, for the propagation of Speckled Trout. . . . The description of the property, and the quantity of fish each pond contains, you will please find herewith. - Please refer to Section 15, of the Fisheries Act. . . .

I Have &amp;c

Hon: Minister

John W. Kerr

&amp;c. &amp;c. &amp;c.

Y. O.

Copy.

To J. W. Kerr Esq  
Inspector of Fisheries,  
Hamilton. -

Sir, Herewith I enclose you description of my fish ponds, and wish you to obtain for me permission to catch and breed fish to the same extent as you have already granted to G. A. Lacey.

of Stopedale . . . . .

Description of Property. . . . .

Being Composed of a part of the easterly half of lot No: 15, in the 9. Concession of the township of Erin, in the County of Wellington, more particularly described as those certain Fish ponds, containing about two acres, being part of Park lot, No: 12, in the Village of Erin! . . . . .

There are four ponds. No: 1, being the uppermost, surplus water of No: 1, runs into No: 2, surplus of No: 2 into No: 3, surplus of No: 3, into No: 4. —

Pond No: 1, is now prepared and filled for young trout

" " 2, Contains about 1500 small trout.

" " 3, Contains about 2000, averaging in weight about one half pound each. —

Pond No: 4, contains 1000, averaging in weight one and a half pound each. —

Yrs respectfully,  
Wellington Hall.

Erin, Onto, Nov 18<sup>th</sup> 1872.

Dear Sir,

I send you herewith description of my fish ponds, with the quantity of fish in each. . . . I hope you will find this satisfactory. — Be good enough to have permit granted to me with powers of dealing with same as extensive, as by law you can. —

Yrs respectfully,  
Wellington Hall.

J. W. Kerr Esq  
Inspector of Fisheries.  
Hamilton. —



Sir,

25. Nov. 1872,

I have the honor to report for your information that on Friday morning last, at Port Union from information I received I proceeded in a boat about three miles out into Lake Ontario, where it was said a white fish gill net was set on the 20<sup>th</sup> instant, "close time," see section 9. of the Fishery Act. -

On arriving out there and examining the net, I found it was a six and a half inch (mesh,) Salmon Trout gill net, set in deep water, and where white fish do not frequent at this close season of the year. -

Wm Lang, the fisherman, and the owner of the net complained of, accompanied me out with two other men to inspect the net. -

I do really think that a regulation fixing close season for Salmon Trout, in this Province should be promulgated.

I have &c.

John W. Kerr

Hon. Minister

&c. &c. &c.

J. W.

X

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>, November 1872,

At Hamilton, Toronto, Whitby, Shoal point, Duffins Creek, and Port Union, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 1. a.m. 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. Miles 98. - \$44 B. 1.50, Ry fare 2.30, dinner tea and bed 75. - team from Whitby to Shoal point and Duffins Creek \$2.50, \$44 Buggy from Duffins Creek to Port Union \$3.00 including tolls, Miles 98. - gave warrant to Constable Wm Ferguson, to seize S. Wright's gill net, they being set out in close season. - and also requested Mr Wm Starkie, to accompany Ferguson, as I had myself work on hand at Port Union with Billy Lang, reported by J. Moon to

be catching wh. fish, and having a white fish gill net out there fishing in front of Port Union, see my report of 25<sup>th</sup> instant. - -

+ Friday, 22, November 1872,  
At Port Union and out into Lake Ontario, to see Billy Langs net, and examine it, found it to be 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inch mesh trout net, Yankees Pete Billy Lang and his brother with me. - went out at 9 a.m. came in at 11. Mile about 8 gave Dutch Plate 75<sup>¢</sup>, breakfast dinner and bed 75<sup>¢</sup>. from Port Union to Duffins Creek, having a telegram from W. Hartick, that he had got Wrights nets and boat. - had Solz Wright brought before B. Bunting Esq. J. P. and myself, also W. A. Sinclair - see my report of the 25<sup>th</sup> instant, to the Minister - paid telegram 25<sup>¢</sup> other expenses 50<sup>¢</sup>, also visited Hyland Creek, and the Rouge. no Salmon reported in either stream by the Guardians. H. buggy 1.50<sup>¢</sup>, Miles 7. - - Miles to Duffins Creek from Port Union 10 miles. -

+ Saturday, 23, Nov, 1872.  
at Duffins Creek Benjamin Lock charged by me, with fishing 120 yards of Herring gill net without a license. - Admitted the offence fined \$1. and costs. Net Confiscated - thence to Toronto and Hamilton, Miles 72.  
Team to take up nets \$2, breakfast and dinner 75<sup>¢</sup>. - Telegraph 25<sup>¢</sup>, postage 50<sup>¢</sup>.  
By fare \$2.05



Sir,

25. November 1872.

I have the honor to report for your information, that on Friday last at Shoal point, in Lake Ontario, and township of Pickering, I had Messrs Salisbury Wright, and Wm A. Sinclair, of Frenchmans bay, two fishermen, captured by Mr Wm Starkich and Mr Wm Ferguson, the guardians of Duffins creek, Salmon stream, for having in their possession thirteen white fish, caught by them with gill nets, between the 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of December, to wit; on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November, instant, in contravention of Sections 9. and 11. of the Fisheries Act. - -

I visited the locality myself on Thursday evening after dark, and altho' I visited the fishermen's shanty I did not find them in, but I saw unmistakable signs to convince me that illegal fishing was being carried on there. - -

I proceeded on to Duffins creek, having myself in view another seizure of wh. fish gill nets at Port Union. - - I empowered, and authorized Messrs Starkich and Ferguson, to proceed to Shoal point, bay in ambush there, and watch if Wright, and Sinclair would go out and fish up, and if they found wh. fish, and wh. fish gill nets, in the boat when they came in, to seize boats, nets and white fish, and telegraph me to Port Union. -

The seizure being effected, was communicated to me, on Friday afternoon when I returned to Duffins creek, had Salisbury Wright, and Wm A. Sinclair, arraigned, for catching white fish on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November, it being above time, and for having the same in their possession, in contravention of the Fisheries Act, see Section 9. and 11. -

Heretofore Bunting Esq. J. P. and myself, tried the cases, on Friday evening last, at Duffins creek and we fined each of the offenders five dollars and

costs, or to be imprisoned in default of payment in Whitley Jail, for 20 days: - and the nets, and the Wh: fish (13) together with the boat in which the same were taken and found, and which was used in catching them to be confiscated; see sub section 4, of Section 16. - - -

Eight Salmon Trout, and three mullet caught at the same time, we gave up to Wright and Sinclair again. - - The 13 white fish I gave to Wm. Ferguson, who is a constable, as he made the seizure, and is a very good man: - see sub section 2, of Section 11. - The nets and boat, we confiscated. - - The boat is worth \$30, and the nets about 1,500 yards I took home with me here, so as to have them dried and properly cared for. - The nets when new are worth  $5\frac{1}{2}$ , per 100 yards. - - -

I would respectfully recommend that the fine be held in abeyance, but that the costs be at once paid, to which you will please give your assent. -

All of which is respectfully submitted. - -

Hon: Minister  
He. He. He.

I Have &c.  
John W. Stew.  
J. W. Stew.

P. S. - The boat I left in the care of Mr. Wm. Hartick, at Duffin Creek. J. W. Stew.  
Telegram 39, Postage 30

& Tuesday, 3. December 1872, - -  
At Charles Depew's, to make enquiries, thence to Hamilton, went out at 1. p. m. came in at 5. p. m. H. & B. 1.50. Miles 8. - - -



\* Tuesday 26. November 1872,

At Ingersoll and Port Burwell, getting up my returns, saw Bill Elliott and Frank Dees, went out at 8. a.m., came in at 9. p.m., miles 100, Ry fare \$3.40, Stage fare &c. 2.00, dinner tea and bed \$1.00. - -

\* Wednesday 27. Nov: 1872,

at Port Burwell, Houghton Centre, Port Royal, Port Roman, St. Williams, Turkey Point, St. Pyerssee and Port Dover, getting up my returns, went out at 6. a.m., came in at 7. p.m. - miles about 58, Stage \$1.50, 49 Buggy <sup>\$</sup>2.50, Board Horse feed &c for Peter Price and self <sup>\$</sup>2.50, dinner and breakfast for self <sup>\$</sup>.75. -

\* Thursday 28. Nov: 1872, -

at Port Dover, Hantecoke, Sandusky, Stony <sup>\$</sup>6.25, Peacocks point, Hovers point, and Rainham Dunville, getting up my returns, - 49 buggy, <sup>\$</sup>3.75, Stage <sup>\$</sup>.75, dinner tea and bed <sup>\$</sup>.75, - Miles 40. - -

\* Friday 29. Nov: 1872,

at Dunville, St. Colborne, St. Catharines and Home, - went out at 8. a.m., got home at 7.30, p.m. - Railway fare to St. Catharines \$1.40, breakfast, dinner and tea \$1.00. - Railway fare from St. Catharines to Hamilton \$1.30, miles in all about 69.

\* Wednesday 4. December 1872,

at Weymouth to see Paddy Stand and get from him his returns, was there for several hours, Paddy being out on the Lake fishing up his nets, went out at 8. a.m., came in at 8. p.m., miles about 36. 49 B. 1.50, Ry fare 90, dinner & tea 1. - Got 19. M. fish from Paddy Stand. - -

Sir, -

30, November 1872,

I have the honor to report for your information that in obedience to your circular to me of the 8<sup>th</sup> of October last, I expressed to Professor Spencer F. Baird, United States Fishery Commissioner, Washington D. C. - a box containing (8) light white fish. - - - From your Lake Erie, and your from Lake Ontario. - - -

You will now please find herewith a copy of the correspondence passed between the Professor, and me on this subject. - -

As you will please observe, Professor Baird, in the latter part of his letter to me says: I shall be very glad to have from you any additional details in reference to the habits of the white fish, especially any thing connected with their spawning, rate of growth, or other incidents of their history. -

I desire your permission to comply with Professor Baird's wishes on this subject. - - -

I Have &c.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister

&c. &c. &c.

John W. Kent, - -

D. O. -

\* Wednesday 5, December 1872, - -

at Bronte to see William Ingledeu, and get returns from him, went out at 8. a. m. came in at 8. p. m. - Miles about 40. 54 & B: 1.75.  
By fare 90. dinner and tea 75. -



Sir,

6. December 1872,

I have the honor to state for your information that Mr Anthony Morrison of West Tilbury, near Stony point, on Lake St. Clair, and who owns and resides, on lot 17, Broken point, Conception of said township, has applied to me for a license to fish gill nets in Lake St. Clair, in front of his own property.

He first spoke to me about it, the latter end of January last, when I was up there by your instruction.

He has now renewed the application, which I recommended may be granted to him at the rate of five dollars per year. - There is no gill net fishing within ten miles of the place now applied for. - - -

If Mr Morrison resided in my own district, I would at once issue to him a license.

The  
Hon. Minister  
He, He, He,  
Ottawa, -

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kier  
D. O.

Postages 37.

Sir,

7. December 1872.

I have the honor to report for your information, that Mr James Storey, of the township of Whitby, Guardian of Lyons Creek, a Salmon stream set apart, and which runs through his property, between the base line, and Lake Ontario, in the said township, had a person named Cameron, an old offender, and another person fined a short time ago, for trespassing on his property with guns on, and adjacent to the creek, situated between the base line, and the mouth of the creek, where it enters Lake Ontario. . . . Cameron &c, have appealed to the Court of Quarter Sessions, to commence at Whitby on Tuesday next. . . . Mr Storey has summoned me to attend in his behalf, as a witness, of which I beg to apprise you. . . . I Have &c

Yours Minister  
 &c. &c. &c.

John W. Kent  
 J. O.

Wm. W. W.

7. December 1872.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a quantity of stationery, including folscap, and note paper, official and small envelopes, &c, and for which please accept my thanks &c,

I Have &amp;c

Yours Minister  
 &c. &c. &c.

John W. Kent  
 J. O.

Wm. W. W.



+ Monday, 9. December 1872,

At Toronto, on way to Whitby, to see the Case against the Camerons disposed of, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 12. Noon, remained at Toronto getting up returns, saw Mr P. Gray; H. Miles about 46, Ry fare 1.30, H & B, 1.50, dinner tea and bed \$1.00.

+ Tuesday 10. December 1872,

At Toronto and Whitby, as a witness for Mr James Storey, went out at 5.30. a.m. came in at 10. a.m. Miles about 34, Ry fare \$1.00, board \$1.50, bed 25¢.

+ Wednesday 11. December 1872, -

At Whitby attending Court, thence to Duffins b<sup>o</sup> went out at 5. p.m. came in at 6. p.m. Miles 8, H & B, 1.50 board 1.50, bed 25¢.

+ Thursday 12. December 1872,

At Duffins Creek, Frenchmans Bay, Port Union, Yates gulley, and Leslieville, getting up returns thence to Toronto. -- H & B buggy to Port Union 2.25 from Port Union to Toronto 2.50, breakfast, dinner, bed and tea \$2.00. - Miles 30. -

+ Friday 13. December 1872,

At Toronto and home, Ry fare 1.30, and breakfast 50¢, Miles 46, H & B, 1.50¢; --

+ Saturday, 14 Dec: 1872,

At Jordan to see Dick Gilbert, thence to Susquehanna and Chippawa, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 9. p.m. Miles 102, Ry fare \$1.

+ Sunday, 15. Dec: 1872.

At Depue's Inlet, persons reported to be there shooting, went out at 9. a.m. came in at 3. p.m. Miles 10. H & B, 1.50

+ Monday, 16, Dec: 1872,  
at the Heights, thence to B. beach by the plains  
getting up fish returns and statistics, went out at  
9, a.m. came in at 8, p.m. home by City, miles  
about 30, \$44 B. 2.50, dinner for self and son  
50¢

+ Thursday 19, Dec: 1872,  
at Jordan getting up returns, went out at  
8, a.m. came in at 4, p.m. miles 60. -  
\$44 B. - 1.50. Ry fare \$1.60¢, dinner 50¢

+ Friday 20, Dec: 1872,  
at Ingersoll to make enquiry and place a  
person to watch poachers killing speckled  
trout, went out at 8, a.m. came in at  
10, p.m. miles about 140. - \$44 slip 1.50¢  
Ry fare 3.70, dinner 50¢. - -

Sir 25. Dec: 1872,

I have the honor to send you herewith, a letter of  
application I received from Mr. S. B. Jackson of  
Mitchells bay, Lake St. Clair, Chatham P. office.  
which I have much pleasure in recommend-  
ing to your consideration. - - I believe the place  
referred to, is on the St. Clair flats, between the  
River and Lake St. Clair, and not at present  
under the supervision of a fishing officer.

Hon. Minister,  
Hc. Hc. Hc.  
Ottawa. -

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr  
D.O.,



Sir,

25. December 1872,

I have the honor to report for your information, that when recently attending the Court of Quarter Sessions, at Whitby, South Riding of Ontario, I was credibly informed that a great deal of illegal fishing is being carried on at Port Perry, Beaverton, Lake Simcoe, &c. &c. &c. -

Mr W. H. Shipman, the Quaffer there, I was told died some time ago. - A Railway from Whitby Harbour to Port Perry, is now in running order daily. - - -

I have also the honor to report that a man from the City of New York, passed over the Hamilton and Toronto branch, last week, on his way to Collingwood where he said he would remain all winter fishing. Sending his fish off there occasionally, as he may catch or kill them. - - -

My informant stated to me that this New York City man was after speckled trout, &c. for a house in that City, and that he makes a good business of it, having been up there for several years during each winter. - - - I believe there is a good deal of this kind of poaching, carried on back north there, each winter, without let or hindrance.

I deem it my duty to give you this information. -

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kent  
S. O.Hon. Minister,  
V. V. V.  
Ottawa.

+ Saturday 28, Dec: 1872.

at B. beach getting up returns, all night, went out at 9, a. m. came in at 4 p. m. miles 28. - David Armstrong, paid me 3<sup>4</sup>, and Johnathan Corey paid me \$4. - H. & Sleigh 2.50, dinner 50¢

+ Monday, 30, Dec: 1872.

at S. Bridge and Fort Erie, getting up my returns, went out at 8, a. m. came in at 4, p. m. Miles 75, Ry fare 55<sup>4</sup>, Ry fare 1.35. H. & B. 1.50, dinner tea and bed 75<sup>4</sup>

+ Tuesday 31, Dec: 1872, ---

at Fort Erie, thence to Buffalo, S. Bridge, and Queenston and Niagara, went out at 9, a. m. came in at 5, p. m., ferry boat 5¢, Street Car 8¢, Ry fare 59¢, H. & Cutter to Niagara 3<sup>4</sup>, breakfast dinner tea, and bed \$1. - - Miles 46. - -

Wednesday, - 1<sup>st</sup> January 1873.

x at Niagara, St. Catherine's and home. - getting returns at Niagara. - Stage \$1, S. & S. Sleigh 25<sup>4</sup>, Ry fare \$1, breakfast and dinner 50<sup>4</sup>, - miles about 48. -

Wednesday, 8, January 1873.

at B. beach, got Dan McFurze and Alex Rolley with returns for Dec 1872 went out at 2, p. m. came in 5 p. m. Miles 20. H. & Sleigh. - 2.



Sir,

16, January 1872,

I have the honor to submit for your information  
my diary and disbursements for the quarter ending  
the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 1872, amounting to, - - \$229.97.4

1, Peter Krie, Salary as Guardian &c,	88.00,
2, Fred <sup>k</sup> Kerr, Boatman, -	" 20.00,
3, John W. Kerr, Disbursements, -	" 18.50,
4, Owen Bowers, Port Rowan, -	" 15.00,
5, Lot Spencer, Port Royal, -	" 15.00,
6, W <sup>m</sup> H. Seary, - Long Point, - -	" 30.00,
7, Alson Miles, - London, - - -	" 7.50,
8, Fred <sup>k</sup> E. Ritchie, - Hamilton, -	" 5.14,
9, John W. Kerr, Office Rent, -	" 5.00,
10, John W. Kerr, - Stationery, - -	" 1.50,
11, John W. Kerr, Telegrams, - -	" 3.50,
12, Thomas McDonough - falt, -	" 15.00
Total \$454.14	

All of which is respectfully submitted,  
I Have &c,

Hon. Minister

John W. Kerr

&amp;c, &amp;c, &amp;c,

D.O.

Ottawa,

108.50

170.50

229.97  
170.50  
59.47

240

170

70

54.14

170

294.14

Sir,

6, January 1873

I have the honor to send you herewith the vouchers of the guards in duplicate employed to protect the Salmon streams during the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> of December 1872, as follows: viz

1. James Story - Guards - Lynde Creek, -	\$25.00
2. Mrs John Stead - " Duffin's Creek -	30.00
3. Wm Hartwick, Guardsman, do. -	40.00
4. Wm Hayman, do, do. -	30.00
5. Joseph McAlldell Sr, do, The Rouge,	25.00
6. Joseph Moon, Serving Notices - -	15.00
7. William McNeill, Guardsman Hiland Creek -	15.00
8. James J. Miley, - do, The Credit -	25.00
9. William Higgins, do, Upper Credit -	15.00
Total \$ 220.00	

The duty I believe was faithfully performed. - The show of the Salmon was splendid in Duffin's Creek, and Lynde Creek, last October, and November. - - As those acts are paid from the appropriation set apart for the Fish Breeding Establishment under your superintendence at Newcastle, he pleased to send forward the claims to the department at Ottawa as soon as possible.

I Have &amp;c,

Hon: Minister

&amp;c. &amp;c. &amp;c.

Ottawa,John W. Kerr  
S.O.



My dear Sir,

Your letter has been received by me, with  
returns. — With regard to giving back to you, your old  
ground, I can do nothing of the kind for you, neither can I  
allow you to fish any more, nor any longer until you first  
pay license fee in advance, and pay up all back rents. —

Read over the fishing act carefully, you have a copy  
in your possession and you will find the position you oc-  
cupy. — Enclose an order in Council for your informa-  
tion.

I advise you to take out your license at once, and pay  
up, if you intend to fish this year of 1873. —

Yrs Respectfully,

John W. Kerr

J. Boulger,

Hamilton, Ontario,

20, January 1873. —

Read Sections 2, Section 10 and 11, and sub section 2, of Sec-  
tion 11, and section 13. — Sub section 4 of section 16, and section  
18, and sub section 2, of section 18, and section 19, and sub  
section 2, of section 19 of the Fisheries act. —

P.S. I have no net for sale except 1600 yards of  
white fish gill net. — J. W. Kerr

Mr. Peter Bath,  
Port Dalhousie

The Ontario division of the Hamilton District  
between Whitley Harbour and Toronto, for year  
1872. - - -

62, Men employed net fishing, during year 1872,	
13. Seines, - 2490, Yards long, worth. -	5980.00
29,100. Yards of Salmon Trout gill net,	1691.50
19,400, Yards of White fish gill net,	1358.00
4680, Yards of Starling gill net,	468.00
9600 Yards of Cisco gill net. -	1152.00
6820 Yards of Pike gill net,	341.00
Total 72090 Yards of gill and seine nets, worth -	10990.50
Add - 600 lb hooks and lines. -	30.00
34 Boats worth altogether. -	1140.00
34, Large Reels. -	102.00
80, Boxes and small Reels. -	80.00
26, Barrows, for the seine net,	39.00
Total \$	12381.50

Remarks. -

Please find on the back of this re-  
turn, a summary of all the different kinds  
of fish taken in this division of the Hamilton  
District. Their Market price &c. &c. &c.  
Hamilton Onto

16<sup>th</sup> January 1873,

The Hon. The Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries  
Ottawa.

John W. Henry  
J. Munger,



For the Year 1872.

Lake Ontario division of the Hamilton District,  
between Whitby Harbour, and the Village of  
Bronte. . . .

No. of Barrels	Description of Fish. -	Amount,	
		\$	¢
148,	Barrels of Salmon Trout, sold fresh. -	1481	00
110½	Barrels of Pike. -	753	00
237,	Barrels of White fish. -	2370	00
109¾	Barrels of Herring. -	867	00
54	Barrels of Rough fish. -	295	00
6,	Barrels of eels. -	60	00
65,	Barrels of Trout fish. -	260	00
12,	Barrels of suckers. -	50	00
102,	Barrels of biscuits. -	900	00
844¼	Barrels. -	Total. - \$ 7036 00	

Correct, as per annexed Return. . . .

Hamilton, Ontario,

12<sup>th</sup> January 1873.

John W. Kent  
J. O.

In the Ontario Division of the Hamilton Dist.  
Showing Returns of fishing Stations, Yield

Whitby Harbour, Melf <sup>3</sup> Elliott,		3,	License 2500, S.B. g.n
" and Westcot. -			
do. - John Proudfoot,		1,	License 120, Pike, g.n
do, George White. -		2,	License 150, - do -
Shoal point, Salsy Wright. -		4	License. 2100 W. J. g.n
Lake Ontario. Wm. McLeod		"	" 1700, S.B. g.n
" Benj <sup>m</sup> Lock. -		"	" 480, St. g.n
" Wm. A. Sinclair		"	" "
Frenchmans Bay. - John Fisher,		4, -	License, 150, Seine
" "		"	" 2000, W. J. g.n
" "		"	" 6000, S.B. g.n
The Rouge. - William Bowman,		4,	License 200, Seine -
Port Union. - Joseph Moon. -		2,	License. 2800, W. J. g.n
do, Wm. Lang. -		2,	License. 4000 S.B. g.n
" "		"	" 2000, W. J. g.n
" "		"	" 500, W. J. - " -
" "		"	" 500 S.B. g.n.
do, Wright Sparks. -		2,	License, 1800 S.B. g.n
" "		"	" 1800 - do.
do, Mr. Davis. -		4	License 100 Seine. -
Gates Gulley. - Francis Portuine. -		2,	License. 80 Seine -
Scarborough. -		"	" 800 S.B. g.n.
" "		"	" 800 W. J. g.n
Scarborough, - Sen: Marsh. -		2,	License. 80 Seine
and		"	" 600 W. J. g.n
Leslieville. -		"	" 300 Pike, g.n
" "		"	" 300 St. and Seine
Scarborough John Morley. -		2,	License, 6000, S.B. g.n.
and		"	" 4000, W. J. g.n
Leslieville		"	" 300, Pike g.n
"		"	" 150, Seine. -
do, Lock McKenian		2,	License 3500 W. J. g.n

between Whitley Harbour and Toronto for year 1872,  
value &c, &c, &c,

Bait;				Only made one set,	
15 fish.	S. Trout,	7½	Fresh,	Whitley.	then gave up fishing
3	Pike.	30	Fresh	Whitley.	
2½	Pike.	25	Fresh,	Whitley.	
5	S. Trout,	50	Fresh,	do.	and surrounding
25½	White fish	225	Fresh,	do.	Country.
18	Herring,	108	Fresh,	do.	do.
—	—	—	—	—	—
25	W. fish.	250	Fresh.	Toronto.	used through the
20	S. Trout,	200	Fresh.	Toronto.	South Riding of
10	Herring.	100	Fresh,	Toronto.	Ontario.
2½	Rough fish	10	Fresh.	Family use,	Caught a Salmon and
18 fish,	Wh. fish,	3½	Fresh,	Family use.	liberated him.
2½	Wh. fish.	25	Fresh.	Toronto.	
30	S. Trout.	300	Fresh.	Toronto.	
"	"	"	"	"	Those nets are on hand
"	"	"	"	"	but not in use.
7½	S. Trout	75	Fresh.	Toronto	on hand but not in use.
"	"	"	"	"	
2	Herring &c,	20	Fresh,	Family use.	
8	W. fish.	80	Fresh.	all over the township of	
2	Trout.	20	Fresh.		
5	Herring,	40	Fresh,	do.	do.
10	Pike,	80	Fresh.	Toronto.	
2	W. fish.	20	Fresh.	do.	
2	Sal.	20	Fresh,	do.	
—	—	—	—	—	—
15	W. fish,	150	Fresh	Toronto,	
50	S. Trout	500	"	do.	
5	Pike.	30	"	do	
5	Herring,	35	"	do	
10	W. fish	100	Fresh	Toronto	Sold out only fishes
					rest of year.



Ashbridges Bay, John Gensell & Co. -	2,	License 1600 fike gn
" " " "	"	" 900 St. g. n
" " " "	"	" 300, St. Lines,
Ashbridges Bay, - William Shuter. -	1,	License, 1000, B. g. n
do, Edward apted. -	1,	License, - 500 do -
do, John Dorman. -	2	License. - 1000, do
" " " "	"	" 900 St. g. n
The Island. - John Ward. -	1,	License. - 300 f. g. n
" " " "	"	" 900, St. g. n
Toronto Island, David Ward. -	4	License. 3000, S. B. gn
" " " "	"	" 3000, St. g. n
" " " "	"	" 1500 W. f. g. n
" " " "	"	" 560 Series
" " " "	"	" 300, f. g. n
" " " "	"	" - " -
Toronto Island, George Dorman. -	4	License. - 550 Series,
" " " "	"	" 4000 St. g. n
" " " "	"	" "
" " " "	"	" "
" " " "	"	" "
Toronto Island, - Patrick Gray. -	4,	License. - 2000 St. g. n
" " " "	"	" 1000 B. g. n
" " " "	"	" 550 Series,
Port Credit. - John Bear,	2,	License. - 30, Series
" " " "	"	" - " -
The Stumber, John Dick, -	1,	License, 250 f. g. n
Monte. - William Engledew	2,	License, 1000 S. B. gn
" " " "	"	" 1600 W. f. g. n
" " " "	"	" 600, B. g. n
Monte. - Thomas Joyce. -	2,	License. 2000 - do. -

Fishery Overseer office  
 Hamilton, Onto  
 6<sup>th</sup> January 1873.

20	Pike	160	Fresh,	Toronto.	-
20	Pike	160	Fresh,	Toronto,	
9	Sterring.	54	Fresh,	Toronto.	-
4	Rel.	40	Fresh,	Toronto.	-
25	Pike	150	Fresh,	Toronto.	-
2	Pike & suckers	20	Fresh.	Family use.	-
8	Pike and do.	48	Fresh,	Toronto.	-
3	Sterring.	24	Fresh,	Toronto.	-
15	Pike	90	Fresh,	Toronto.	
7	Sterring.	56	do	do.	-
40	W. fish.	400	Fresh,	Toronto.	
30	Rough fish.	150	do,	do,	
20	Cisco.	160	do,	do,	
20	B. Sterring.	160	do,	do,	
4	White fish.	40	do,	do,	
25	S. Trout.	250	do.	do.	-
35	W. fish.	350	Fresh,	Toronto.	
20	Rough fish.	120	do,	do,	
20	Cisco.	160	S & do,	do,	
18 3/4	Sterring.	150	do,	do,	
65	Roast fish &c	260	do,	do.	-
40	White fish.	400	Fresh,	Toronto.	
20	Pike &c	120	do,	do,	
12	Sterring.	120	do.	do,	
10	Suckers.	40	Fresh	for credit,	
2	Shad suckers	10	do.	do.	
3	Rough fish.	15	do	Family use.	- Sleeps a Hotel.
30	Wh. fish.	300	Fresh,	at Niagara & Co. of Halton.	and
7 1/2	S. Trout.	75	do.	do.	City of Hamilton.
20	Cisco.	160	do and Sm <sup>Kad</sup> <sub>III</sub>	Hamilton & Halton.	-
42	Cisco.	420	do.	do,	In - do - do,
<hr/>					
844 1/4	Bare!	Total \$7036			

John W. Kern,  
"F. Oversee."

The Lake Ontario division of the Hamilton Dist<sup>y</sup>  
between Toronto and B.S. Dalhousie year 1872. -

106. Men employed net fishing and spearing. -	\$ 4
16. Seines - 5520 Yards of White fish St. and Rough fish. -	110 40 00
1600. Yards of Salmon & gill net.	96 00
7800. Yards of White fish gill net.	468 00
400. Yards of Pike gill net.	20 00
4200. Yards of Pike gill net.	220 00
9500. Yards of White gill net.	950 00
5100 Yards of St. gill net.	510 00

Add. -

Total \$13304 00

28. Boats of all kinds. -	840 00
36. Ropes used for setting gill nets. -	72 00
32. Harrows used in Seine hauling. -	64 00
34. Large Reels, for Reeling up nets to dry. -	102 00
48. Spears. -	96 00
28. Spearing punts, and Lark Lights. -	224 00
48. Irish Spearing Houses. -	192 00

Gr<sup>d</sup> Total \$14894 00

Remarks.

✓ This includes Ropes for hauling, Windlasses &c. &c. &c.

Please find on the other side a summary of  
all the different kinds of fish, caught in this  
division of the Hamilton District. Their Market  
prices &c. &c. &c.

Hamilton, Ont<sup>y</sup>

16<sup>th</sup> January 1873.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries. -

Ottawa,

John W. Stewart  
J. W. Stewart,



For the Year 1872,

Lake Ontario division of the Hamilton District, between  
Bronte and 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  Dalhousie, or the mouth of the Welland  
Canal. ---

No. of Barrels.	Description of Fish. -	Amount. -	
		\$	¢
10.	Barrels of Pickled. -	50	00
134 $\frac{1}{2}$	Barrels of Rough fish. -	950	00
50.	Barrels of Males. -	300	00
2.	Barrels of Salmon Trout. -	20	00
163.	Barrels of Herring. -	1608	00
165 $\frac{1}{2}$	Barrels of biscuits. -	1455	00
102	Barrels of Pike. -	675	00
147.	Barrels of White fish. -	1634	00
774	Barrels. - -	Total, \$ 6692 00	

Correct, as per annexed return. -

Hamilton, Ontario.

16<sup>th</sup> January 1873. -

John W. Kerr  
J. G. G. G. G.

"The Lake Ontario division of the Hamilton Dist 3

Burlington Beach, Mary Loebe. -	4	License, 300 Seine. -
" " "	"	" " 1200. St. g. n.
Burlington Beach, James Macdell. -	2,	License. 250. Seine. -
do. - Mrs Joan Baldry. -	2,	License. 600. St. g. n.
Burlington Beach, - Mrs Sher venelle	2,	License. 1000. St. g. n.
" " -	"	" " -
Burlington Beach, - Fred <sup>W</sup> Loney,	4,	License. - 200 p. g. n.
" " "	"	" " 160. St. g. n.
" " "	"	" " 400 Seine. -
Burlington Beach, Benjamin Goulds. -	4,	License. 1000 Seine.
" " "	"	" " 400 p. g. n.
" " "	"	" " 1500 St. g. n.
" " "	"	" " 800 W. p. g. n.
Burlington Beach, Daniel McEgoryne	4,	License. 650 Seine.
" " "	"	" " 300 p. g. n.
" " "	"	" " 1800 Cis: g. n.
" " "	"	" " -
Burlington Beach, Richard Laaffe,	2,	License. 1000 Cis: g. n.
" " "	"	" " 90. St. g. n.
" " "	"	" " 200. p. g. n.
" " "	"	" " 1000. W. p. g. n.
Burlington Beach, John Laaffe. -	4	License. 800 Seine.
" " "	"	" " 400 pike. g. n.
" " "	"	" " 800. Cis: g. n.
" " "	"	" " -
Burlington Beach, Robert Fletcher.	1,	License. 900 Sticks
" " "	"	" " 200. P. g. n.
" " "	"	" " -
Burlington Beach, Wm Poelkins. -	4.	License 850. Seine
" " "	"	" " 900 Cis: g. n.
" " "	"	" " -
Burlington Beach, David Armstrong,	1.	License 140. P. g. n.
" " "	"	" " 450. Cis: g. n.

between Toronto, and Port Dalhousie for year 1872.

50	Rough fish.	400	Fresh,	City of Hamilton	
5	Herring.	40	do.	do.	
3	Herring.	24	Fresh,	City - Hamilton.	
5	Cisco.	50	do & Sm <sup>Kel</sup>	do.	Mr. Reddy did not fish here since -
8	Cisco.	80	Fresh.	Hamilton.	and then the country.
12	Herring.	120	Fresh.	do.	
5	Pike.	40	Fresh.	Hamilton.	
4	Herring.	40	do.	do.	
2	Cisco.	20	Fresh.	For family use.	
10	Rough fish.	50	Fresh.	Hamilton.	
40	Wh. fish.	400	do.	do.	
3	Herring.	30	do.	Hamilton.	Fresh and Smoked.
15	Cisco.	150	do.	do.	Fresh and Smoked.
18	Rough fish.	180	Fresh.	Hamilton.	
5	White fish.	60	do.	do.	
50	Herring.	500	do.	do.	And killed in country.
22½	Cisco.	225	do.	do.	do.
3	Herring.	30	Fresh,	Hamilton	
8	Cisco.	80	do.	do.	Fresh and Smoked.
3	Pike.	15	do.	do.	
5	White fish.	60	do.	do.	
10	Cisco.	100	Fresh,	Hamilton.	and Smoked.
15	Wh. fish.	156	do.	do.	Caught a Salmon in Lake
6	Herring.	60	do.	do.	in May liberated him.
5	Pike.	40	do.	do.	
1	Herring.	10	Fresh.	Hamilton	Mr. Fletcher fished a short time.
3	Cisco.	30	do.	do.	and Smoked.
1	Pike.	8	do.	do.	
7	Wh. fish.	84	Fresh.	Hamilton.	
10	Herring.	100	do.	do.	
2	Cisco.	20	do.	do.	and Smoked.
3	Pike.	18	Fresh,	Hamilton.	
3	Cisco.	30	do.	do.	



Burlington Beach.	Wm. P. Deper.	1.	License, 100 lbs. g. n.
"	"	"	150 lb. g. n.
Burlington Beach.	David Fitch,	4.	License 770. Seine.
"	"	"	220. pike g. n.
"	"	"	800. lbs. g. n.
"	"	"	"
Burlington Beach.	Melp <sup>3</sup> Mortimer and	2.	License, 2000, lbs. g. n.
"	Jonathan Corey.	"	"
Burlington Beach.	Isaiah Corey.	2.	License, 100, Seine.
"	"	"	150. lb. g. n.
Burlington Bay.	Same, Jones & Co.	4.	License 1000 pike g. n.
Burlington Bay.	Wm. Lyne & Co.	3.	License - 400. do.
Byron.	Patrick Stand.	2.	License 2500. lb. f. g. n.
"	"	"	400. lb. g. n.
Gordon.	Richard Gilbert,	4.	License - 250. Seine.
"	"	"	2500. lb. f. g. n.
"	"	"	600. pike g. n.
15 & 16 Mile Creek.	James Miller & Co.	a	License for himself
and canal at	of St. Catherine's.		is an admirable
Port Dalhousie.	"		out by poachers
do.	Peter Bath.	2.	License, 800 lbs. g. n.
"	"	"	1600. lb. g. n.
"	"	"	1000. lb. f. g. n.
"	"	"	400. pike g. n.
"	"	"	150. Seine.
Burlington Bay.	David Melrose	License to spear	
	and 48 others.	Hay, hals & Pike	

So.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>The Minister of Marine,  
and Fisheries, -  
Ottawa.

1	bisco.	10	Fresh.	Hamilton,	
2	Pike.	10	do	Hamilton.	
5	White fish.	60	Fresh.	Hamilton,	
12	Herring.	120	do,	do,	
6	biscos.	60	do,	do,	and smoked.
12½	Rough fish.	100	do,	do.	
48	Herring.	480	Fresh,	Hamilton	and smoked.
25	biscos.	250	do,	do,	do.
1	White fish.	12	Fresh.	Hamilton.	He is poor. I did
3	Herring.	24	do.	do.	not charge him anything
20	Pike.	160	Fresh.	Hamilton.	
3	Pike.	24	Fresh.	Hamilton.	The pike were stolen.
33	White fish.	396	Fresh.	Hamilton and Niagara.	
3	Herring.	30	do.	do.	do.
40	Rough fish.	200	Fresh.	all through the bay of Lincoln.	
33	White fish.	396	do.	do.	do.
10	Pike.	60	do.	do.	do.

and the St. Catharines Game and fish club, for angling in, -  
 thing to give rest to those ponds &c, and protection being fished  
 beyond their capacity. - - -

5	biscos.	50	Fresh.	St. Catharines	
3	W. fish.	30	do,	do,	
2	Salmon St.	20	do,	do,	
10	Pickled,	50	do,	do,	
4	Rough fish	20	do,	do,	
50	Pike.	300	Fresh.	Hamilton	and kept also for
50	Beef.	300	do,	do,	family use a part
50	Herring.	400	do,	do	of them.

85774 Bars: 33#6,692

Hamilton, Ontario,

6<sup>th</sup> January 1873.

John W. Kent,  
 St. Catharines.

"The Ontario Division of the Hamilton District, between Port Dalhousie, and Queenston, for year 1872. -

35, Men employed net &c, fishing during year 1872. -	
8 Seines, - 1980, Yards long, worth, -	3960.00
5,600, Yards of Pickeral gill net,	336 00
7,300, Yards of White fish gill net,	438 00
1,000 Yards of Salmon Trout gill net,	60 00
450 Yards of Cisco gill net,	45 00
100, Yards of Herring gill net,	10 00
<b>Total 16,430 Yards of Seines and gill nets, worth</b>	<b>4849 00</b>
Added, 4, Machines. -	400 00
" 14, Boats. -	405 00
" 17, Large Reels. -	51 00
" 16, Small Reels, and boxes. -	34 00
" 16, Barrows. - -	24 00
<b>Gr. Total. -</b>	<b>\$ 5,763 00</b>

Includes Ropes, &c. -

Please find on the other side a summary of all the different kinds of fish caught in this Division of the Hamilton District, their Market price, &c. &c. &c.

Hamilton, Ontario,

6<sup>th</sup> January 1873. -

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries,  
Ottawa. -

John W. Kerr,  
T. Ouellet.



For the Year 1872.

Lake Ontario, and Niagara River division of the  
Hamilton District, between Port Dalhousie and Queenston  
Heights. —

No of Barrels. —	Description of fish. —	Amount. —	
		¢	¢
2,	Barrels of Salmon Trout. —	31	50
219,	Barrels of White fish. —	2190	00
72,	Barrels of Pickeral. —	381	00
67,	Barrels of Sterring. —	670	00
1,	Barrel of Ciscos. —	4	00
40,	Barrels of Rough fish. —	260	00
5,	Barrels of Sturgeon. —	25	00
406,	Barrels. —	Total. —	3561 00

Correct, as per annexed return. —  
Hamilton, Ontario,  
6<sup>th</sup> of January 1873. —

John W. Kers,  
St. Catharines,



between Pt. Dalhousie and Queenston Heights, year 1872.

13 fish S. Grout,	6½	Fresh, -	Niagara
34 W. fish. -	340,	do,	do,
17½ do. -	175,	do,	do,
10 Pickrel -	50	do,	do. -
40 W. fish.	400	Fresh,	St. Catharines, -
10 Herring. -	100,	do,	do. -
30 W. fish. -	300	Fresh,	St. Catharines. -
10 Herring. -	100	do,	do,
20 Pickrel,	100,	do,	do,
37½ W. fish. -	375	Fresh,	St. Catharines
10 Herring. -	100	do,	do. -
36 W. fish. -	360	Fresh,	Niagara, and St. Catharines. -
21 Pickrel,	126	do,	do,
20 fish, S. Grout,	10	do,	do. -
24 W. fish. -	240	Fresh,	St. Catharines,
21 Pickrel,	105.	do,	do,
1 S. Grout. -	15	do,	do,
1 bass. -	4	do,	do. -
10 Herring, & -	100	Fresh,	Susquehanna Br. and St. Catharines. -
10 Rough fish.	50	do,	do. -
10 Herring. -	100,	Fresh,	St. Catharines Clifton & Drummondville,
5 Sturgeon. -	25	do,	do,
15 Rough fish,	120	do,	do,
10 Herring. -	120,	Fresh,	Leicester, -
10 Rph fish. -	60	do,	do. -
5 Rough fish,	30,	Fresh,	Niagara & Queenston,
7 Herring. -	70,	do	do, do,
406, Bass; 324 3561			

Hamilton, Ontario, -

6<sup>th</sup> of January 1873. -

John W. Kent,

J. G. G. G. -



The Ontario Division of the Hamilton District.  
between Black Creek, and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  Myersee year 1872. -

80 Men employed fishing during year 1872. - \$ 4.

11. Seines. - 755, yards long. - 755 00

17,600, yards of White fish gill net, 1232 00

140, yards of Pike gill net, 7 00

6, Trap or Pike nets. - 48 00

12. Dip nets. - 36 00

Total, \$ 2078 00

Add - 35. Boats. - 584 00

" 11, Reels for Small Seines. - 33 00

" 33, Small Reels for setting gill nets. - 33 00

Hooks and Lines at York etc. - 225 00

Gr<sup>d</sup> Total. - \$ 2953 00

✓ Old Seines, worth only \$1. per yard. -

Please find on the other side a summary of all the different kinds of fish caught in this division of the Hamilton District. - The Market price &c. &c. -

Hamilton, Ontario, - John D. Kerr

6<sup>th</sup> January 1873.

J. D.

The Minister of Marine,  
and Fisheries,  
Ottawa. -

For the Year 1872. -

Ontario Division of the Hamilton District, between  
Black Creek, Niagara River, and Port Byron on  
Lake Erie. - - -

No. of Barrels.	Description of fish. -	Amount.	
		\$.	¢.
96,	Barrels of Pickled. -	960	00
190,	Barrels of Pickled and Sturgeon. -	1140	00
107,	Barrels of Herring. -	662	00
222,	Barrels of Rough fish. -	1229	00
15,	Barrels of Cat-fish. -	90	00
4,	Barrels of Channel Cat. -	56	00
6,	Barrels of Maskinonge. -	90	00
114½	Barrels of White fish. -	1181	00
757½	Barrels. -	Total. - \$ 5.408 00¢	

Correct, as per annexed return. -

John W. Kent,  
D. Auditor.

Hamilton Ontario.

6<sup>th</sup> January 1873. -

## In the Ontario division of the Hamilton-Dist 5

Black Creek in R. W. Little, -	4	License, 50, Seine,
the Niagara River	"	"
do, Chester A. Harris,	8,	License, 100 Seine
at Fort Erie. -	"	"
"	"	"
Port Maitland, - Henry Rof. -	4,	License, 80, Seine,
"	"	6 Pike H <sup>ts</sup>
"	"	"
"	"	"
"	"	"
In Grand River Melf <sup>3</sup> M. Green,	30,	License, - 450, Seine
at Dunnville. - John Logan & boy.	"	" 12 Dip nets,
"	"	"
Wardells Bay. - Peter Wardell & Son,	2,	License, - 1600 W. f. g. n.
do. - Isaac Culp, -	2	License, - 2000 W. f. g. n.
"	"	"
Miller Bay. - Isaac Cates, -	2,	License, 600. W. f. g. n.
Stovers Bay & Point. John Steld & boy,	2,	License, 600. W. f. g. n.
Stovers Point. - Darius Swartz,	2,	License, 700. W. f. g. n.
Sanduski Creek, - William Wardell,	2,	License, - 75 Seine,
"	"	" - 140 P <sup>ke</sup> g. n.
"	"	" - 700. W. f. g. n.
Peacock's Point. William Stoll,	2,	License, - 900. W. f. g. n.
Hart's Lake, - Jim. Stone & boy,	2,	License, - 900 W. f. g. n.
Woodhouse, - Charles Shere & boy,	2,	License, - 2000. W. f. g. n.
do, - James Stargie,	2,	License, - 300. W. f. g. n.
do, - John Law, -	2,	License, - 2000 W. f. g. n.
do, - Wm. Law,	2,	License, - 2000 W. f. g. n.
St. Ryersee, - Pat <sup>h</sup> Layhe, -	2,	License, - 1800 W. f. g. n.
" George Stearls, -	2,	License, - 600 W. f. g. n.
St. Erie in Albert V. Shaw	6,	No license, - 4300 St <sup>ts</sup>
Lake Erie, - and 5 others. -	"	" - and Seine, -
the Mont <sup>ts</sup>		

The Minister of Marine  
and Fisheries -  
Ottawa.



between Black Creek, and Pt Ryerse year 1872,

1. Pickeral.	10	Fresh	In St. Line	only fished for a
2. Herring.	12	do.	do.	short time.
100 Herring.	600	Fresh,	Buffalo.	
60. Pickeral.	600	do.	do.	
40. Rough fish.	320	do.	do.	
4. Channel Cat.	56	Fresh,	Buffalo	
5 Herring.	50	do.	do.	and Dunville.
5 Pickeral.	50	do.	Buffalo.	
15 Catfish.	90	do.	do.	
26. Rough fish.	130.	do.	do.	
30. Pickeral.	300	Fresh,	Dunville.	and all over the
140. Rpt fish.	700	do.	do.	neighbouring towns,
6. Maskinonge.	90	do.	do.	and Country.
7½ White fish.	75	Fresh,	Dunville,	and Rainham.
½ Rough fish.	4½	Fresh,	Rainham.	
9½ White fish.	95	do.	do.	and at Dunville.
6½ Wh. fish.	65	Fresh,	Rainham,	
10. Wh. fish.	100.	Fresh,	Rainham.	
10. Wh. fish.	100	Fresh,	Rainham and Malpore.	
8½ Wh. fish.	85½	Fresh,	Chesapeake Sal Kirk and Rainham.	
15. Rpt fish.	75.	do.	do.	Hartwick & Malpore.
12½ W. fish.	125	Fresh,	do.	do.
5. White fish.	50	do.	do.	do.
14½ Wh. fish.	145	Fresh	Pt Dovee, and through township Woodhouse	
1½ Wh. fish.	16	Fresh,	Family use.	
10. Wh. fish.	100	Fresh,	Pt Dovee, and Wood house,	
10. Wh. fish.	100	Fresh,	do.	do.
9. Wh. fish.	90	Fresh,	Pt Ryerse	
15 fish	Wh. fish	4½	Fresh, Family use	
190 Pick and	1140	Buffalo	all sold	Buffalo, United
Sturgeon.	3	Market,	these fresh.	States.

Total 757 Bar. \$345408.

Hamilton Ontario.  
6. January 1873.

John H. Kern,  
J. C. Jones.

The Lake Erie division of the Hamilton Dist<sup>3</sup>  
between Port Ryerse and Pt<sup>3</sup> Colbath year 1872. -

86 Men employed fishing year 1872. -	\$	4
19. Seines - 5565 yards long, worth. -	5,565	00
7500 yards of white fish gill net, do.	450	00
	<b>Total \$</b>	<b>6,015 00</b>
Added - 25 Boats, worth. -	500	00
19. Large Reels. -	57	00
36. Barrows: - for Seines. -	76	00
4 Dip nets, used at Vienna. -	8	00
	<b>By \$ Total. - \$</b>	<b>6,656 00</b>

o. Those nets were not fished during year 1872. -

Please find on the other side a summary  
of all the different kinds of fish caught in this  
division of the Hamilton District, - Their Market  
price &c. &c. &c.

Hamilton, Ontario

Whitaker

6<sup>th</sup> January 1873.

M. Soufer

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

For the Year 1872,

Lake Erie division of the Hamilton District, between  
Port Ryerse, and Port Talbot. ---

No. of Barrels,	Description of Fish. --	Amount,	
		£,	¢.
183½	Barrels of Pickeral. --	1196	50
124½	Barrels of White fish. --	1245	00
133	Barrels of Rough fish. --	809	00
95	Barrels of Herring. --	786	00
52½	Barrels of Cat fish. --	519	00
47½	Barrels of Sturgeon. --	465	00
2	Barrels of Mackinago. --	23	50
10	Barrels of Mixed fish. --	50	00
81	Barrels of Mulletts &c. --	405	00
42	Barrels of Pike. -- and Pickeral	211	50
34	Barrels of Bass. --	295	00
<u>708</u>	Barrels. --	Total, £	6005 50x

Correct as per annexed return,  
Hamilton, Ontario,  
6<sup>th</sup> January 1873. --

John W. Kerr  
S.O.



## Lake Erie division, of Hamilton District.

Monmouthdale, and Turkey Point. -	Wm. Snook. -	8,	License	1000 Seins.
"	"	"	"	7500, W. J. gn
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
Turkey Point.	John Jackson.	4,	License,	450 Seins.
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
Turkey Point. -	James Crockett,	4,	License.	450 Seins.
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
Turkey Point. -	Mrs A. Ferris & Logg	3,	License.	300 Seins.
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
Turkey Point. -	James Ferris. -	1,	License.	Hooks
"	"	"	"	and Lines
Turkey Point. -	Heath & Wells. -	4,	License.	275 Seins
Long Point.	Richard Johnson,	4,	License,	200 Seins
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
Long Point.	Edward Beaupre,	1,	License,	Hooks
"	"	"	"	and Lines.
Long Point.	The Long Pt Coy.	10,	Lease.	800 Seins
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
Long Point.	Lot Spencer.	4,	License,	200 Seins.
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"

between Port Ryerse and Port Galloway years 1872,

25½	Pickrel,	17 8½	Fresh	St. Point.	20 fish	Rowles
52½	Wh. fish.	525	do.	do.	and Co.	of Norfolk,
26,	Rough fish.	208,	do	do.	and	Gilsonburg do.
32,	Sterring.	256,	do	do.	do.	do. -
6½	Cat fish.	65	do	do.	do.	do. -
20,	Wh. fish.	200	Fresh,	Simcoe,	and Co.	of Norfolk,
19,	Sterring.	152	do.	do.	do.	do.
25,	Pickrel.	150	do.	do.	do.	do. -
25,	Ref. fish.	200	do.	do.	do.	do.
10,	Wh. fish.	100	Fresh.	Turkey pt.	and Co.	of Norfolk
13,	Sterring.	104,	do.	do.	do.	"
25	Ref. fish.	150,	do	do	do.	"
15	Pickrel.	105,	do.	do.	do.	"
8	Wh. fish.	80,	Fresh,	Turkey pt.	and	do. -
18	Sterring.	144	do.	do.	"	do.
14	Pickrel.	98	do.	do.	"	do.
16	Ref. fish.	80	do.	do.	"	do.
8	Catfish.	80	Fresh	Turkey pt.	"	"
5	Sturgeon.	40,	do	do.	"	"
6	Ref. fish &c	60	Fresh,	Turkey pt.	"	"
10	Wh. fish.	100	Fresh,	St. Williams.		
5	Sturgeon.	50	do.	do.		
5	Catfish.	50	do.	do.		
5	Pickrel.	35	do.	do.		
2,	Sturgeon.	20,	Fresh,	St. Williams.		
3	Catfish	24	do.	do.		
73	Mullet &c.	365.	Fresh,	Turkey pt.	township	Charlottville
16	White fish	160,	do.	do.		
20	Salp.	200,	do.	do.	for	Rowell and Gilsonburg.
40	Pike & Pick.	200	do	do.	St. Point, and	Simcoe &c &c.
3	Pick.	21,	Fresh	St. Roman,		
1	Wh. fish.	10	do.	do.		
3	Sturgeon &c.	30	do.	do.		

Long Pt,	Israel Hick & boy	4	License, 100 Seine
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
Long Point,	Edward Foster & Co,	4	License, 200 Seins,
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
The Little Otter,	Frank Deer,	4	License, 100 Seins,
Lake Erie. -	"	"	"
Port Burwell,	William Elliot & Co,	4	License, 300 Seins,
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
Port Bruce, and	G. Kontze. -	4	License, 200 Seins
down to Silver Ck.	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
do,	Jacob Berdau,	5	License 450 Seins.
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
do,	Sylvanus Young	8,	License, 400 Seins
"	& boy. -	"	& Seins,
Port Stanley,	Henry Jones,	5,	License, 340 Seins
"	& boy. -	"	"
Port Talbot	E. W. Justin Esq	4,	License, 200 Seins,
Lake Erie.	M. D. S. Thomas.	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"

So the Honble

The Minister of -

Maries and Fisheries,

Ottawa.



3	Pickeral,	21	Fresh	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ Royal.
2	Catfish,	20	do	do,
2	Sturgeon,	20	do	do
1	Wh. fish,	10	Fresh,	Pt $\frac{1}{2}$ Royal and through the town
3	Pickeral,	24	do	do ship of Walsingham. -
2	Refr fish,	12	do	do,
2	Beals,	20	Fresh	Pt $\frac{1}{2}$ Burwell fished only for a
2	Pickeral,	20	do,	do, short time
3	Pickeral &c,	24	Fresh	Pt $\frac{1}{2}$ Burwell,
1	Wh. fish,	10	do,	Vienna, all in the township
2	Sturgeon,	20	do	Richmond, } of Bayham. -
8	Mullet,	40	do,	Bayham, }
2	Wh. fish,	20	Fresh,	all thru the township of <del>Bayham</del>
15	Pickeral,	120	do	Malahide and Southwold. -
5,	Catfish,	50	do,	do
6	Sturgeon,	60	do	do
3	Wh. fish,	30	Fresh,	Malahide & Southwold. -
30	Pickeral,	240	do	do "
9 $\frac{1}{2}$	Catfish,	95	do	do "
9 $\frac{1}{2}$	Sturgeon,	95	do	do "
13 $\frac{1}{2}$	Catfish,	135	Fresh,	Yarmouth Southwold & Malahide
13	Sturgeon,	130	do,	do,
10	Mixed fish	50	Fresh	Pt $\frac{1}{2}$ Stanley the Jones got the di-
1	Herring,	10	do,	do, Cense for another man,
12	Herring,	120	Fresh	Kingal
40	Pickeral	160	do	Lona,
15	Beals,	75	do	St. Thomas all through the
2	Markings	23 $\frac{1}{2}$	do	do
2	Pike	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	do	do
33	Refr fish	99,	do,	do,
708 Bar 2546005.504				

Hamilton, Onto

6. January 1873.

L. H. W. Kere

D. A.

Sir,

13 January 1873.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Return in detail of all the kinds of fish taken or caught, and sold by the fishermen, who follow fishing as a business in my division, which extends from Whitby Harbour, on Lake Ontario, to Port Dalhousie on Lake Erie.

So as to be the more easily perused by you, and for greater clearness and observation, I have divided my District into five separate Divisions showing the yield and value of the Catch at each of the fishing stations, as follows:

	Barrels	\$
1 <sup>st</sup> From Whitby Harbour to Bronte, $844\frac{3}{4}$	=	7036.00,
2 <sup>nd</sup> " Bronte to Port Dalhousie. -	774,	= 6692.00.
3 <sup>rd</sup> " Port Dalhousie to Queenston, 406,	=	3561.00.
4 <sup>th</sup> " Queenston to Pt. Ryerse. -	757 $\frac{1}{2}$ =	5408.00
5 <sup>th</sup> " Pt. Ryerse to Pt. Dalhousie	708 -	6005.50
Total $3489\frac{3}{4}$		\$28,702.50

Which appears to be  $871\frac{3}{4}$  Barrels of fish, equal to a sum of \$4097.50 of an increase over previous year of 1871. -

In my district between Whitby Harbour, and the village of Bronte, Lake Ontario, we have the following salmon streams; viz. Lyons or Lyons Creek, Duffin Creek, The Rouge, The Midland Creek, The Thames and the Credit. -

In September last I consulted Mr. Samuel Wilmot, the officer in charge of the Government Fish Breeding Establishment, at New Castle, Ontario, about the Salmon Creeks, the result was that Guardians were placed by me on each stream to watch and protect the Salmon during the month of October, and November last, when the Salmon are known for to enter those Creeks for the purpose of spawning. -

It is gratifying to me to state for your information, that the show of Salmon

in Lygon and Duffin Creeks, was very very satisfactory indeed.

The salmon were first seen in Lygon Creek above the Kingston Road, on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of October last, and twenty two different salmon beds were reported to me as being in this Creek altogether by Mr James Storey, the Guardian there whose property this stream runs and enters the Lake Ontario.

In Duffin Creek, the show of salmon was most magnificent, particularly so, on Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup> of October last when the stream rose, and about the Railway Bridge and Mill, up to the dam, a distance of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile was literally alive with salmon. — This was owing in a manner to a freshet, and the mill not working on this day. —

Mr Moses Smith, the mill owner, and proprietor who takes a lively interest in the salmon, and several of the old inhabitants of Pickering assured me the show of salmon in Duffin Creek on this day, was splendid, and equal last fall to what it used to be forty years ago. —

In consequence of the lack of attention on the part of Messrs W<sup>m</sup> Southwick, and John Hartwick, placed by Mr W<sup>m</sup> Hartwick our Guardian to watch Duffin Creek with him, and protect the salmon during October and November 1871, when through inattention a few salmon were taken out of this Creek, as reported to you at the time of the occurrence, and in my Annual report for 1871. — I last fall instructed Mr W<sup>m</sup> Hartwick, and advised him to keep for a diary giving details regarding the salmon in Duffin Creek. — A copy of this document I now subjoin, and which I hope will meet your approbation, and be interesting to you. —

Here Copy Mr W<sup>m</sup> Hartwick's diary.

W



The Salmon that came into Duffin's Creek last fall, were unusually (very) large fish, some of them from appearance and size, exceeding more than twenty pounds, while in number one hundred and fifty, is considered a fair estimate. ---

This diary of Mr. Stetick, who attended to the Salmon, during the day time when the two Salmon referred to therein, were taken out of the Creek is on the whole satisfactory. ---

I must not however forget to bring under your personal observation Mr. Wm. Ferguson, the night headman of Duffin's Creek, who discharged his duty as such to my entire satisfaction. ---

I hope it will not be out of place to say a few words on the low state of the water in this Creek at certain times, and which is now plain has caused death and injury to the Salmon. ---

It has come under my personal observation each succeeding fall for the last few years in connection with the Salmon that have frequented this Creek, during the spawning season, that when the Moss Smith's flour mill is working, which it does night and day (except on Sunday), the Salmon cannot get up this stream to the dam, because all the water except a trifle comes down the mill race. --- They remain about the tail race, at the mill and the railway bridge. --- And whenever the mill stops running, then the fish go up the stream as far as the dam, go there by the regular creek, through and over which the water is then coming down, instead of through the mill race. But when the mill resumes work again, the water becomes shoal and low, being suddenly cut off from the Creek, then it is, and says that the fish got stranded, and two died for want of water. In the instance what Mr. Wm. Ferguson



last fall at Toronto Island, and brought remunerative prices. . . .

The Wh. fish take this year was an improvement at Niagara on the previous year. . . .

A great falling off has taken place in the fishing of Salmon Trout and Wh. fish gill net, whilst a great increase is taking place, in the Herring and Cisco gill net fishing. . . . At Burlington Beach seine hauling for White fish, proved a failure. . . .

The Wh. fish gill net fishing at Wyand, Jordan, and Niagara, was very fair, but owing to the stoppage of the Niagara and Fort Erie Railway the prices were fluctuating. . . .

At Shoal Point, Lake Ontario, I was obliged to put the law in force last November against Messrs Salsberry Wright, Benjamin Cook, and William A. Sinclair, for fishing for and catching Wh. fish during close season. . . . The particulars of which I have already laid before you in my report on that head. . . .

The seine fishing at St. Catharines, and Hook, and Line fishing was remunerative this year. At Dunnville in the St. Lawrence River, the fishing was remunerative to the fishermen. . . .

The fall fishing on Lake Erie, between Rainham Centre, in the County of Haldemaid, and St. Marys in the County of Norfolk, represent a falling off this year of about twenty barrels of fish, equal to about £200, less, as compared with the catch and take of the previous year of 1871. . . .

This is to be attributed to rough weather, and the low state of the water in Lake Erie, whereby many of the small reefs, the usual <sup>(y)</sup> and favourite place and resort for Wh. fish to frequent at this season of the year, (to spawn)



are now exposed to public view and instead of being at that season "the fall" the favourite haunts of the <sup>Wk.</sup> fish many of them now project above water, and have <sup>actually</sup> become the rendezvous of sea gulls and wild ducks. - -

At Turkey Pt, the fishing this year, altho water was low, was a very fair take, and the market, and demand for fish at this station is good, and prices paying well long point. - You will please find that fishing was carried on, on a small scale there this year.

It has been a grand thing for the fishery of Lake Erie in front of the bounty of the State that this respectable Company purchased Long point, because they have given the fisheries rest, keep off poachers <sup>both</sup> home and foreign, whereby fishermen at Turkey point have already during the past three years been reaping the rewards of the Long point Company's protection. - I make this pointed allusion here because as the Commissioner Mr. Whitcher, and the Fishery department are aware the fisheries of this locality were fished to death, and fished out most completely. - - -

Not many pickers made their appearance in Big Creek last spring except during the close season. When through the exertions of Messrs. Hot Spence, and Owen Bowles, whom you empowered me to appoint guardians there, the law was strictly observed. - - -

From Long Pt, on up to Port Talbot, the Western terminus fishing station of my district, on Lake Erie, the detailed return will give you the result. -

Taking all things into <sup>due</sup> consideration regarding the production of our fisheries last year based on your prudent order for the fishermen to kill of the pike between Whitley Harbor and R. beach, east spring so as to prepare the creeks for the Salmon: I now find at the close of this year, that there is an increase of fish taken and caught over the

previous year of 1871, of  $87\frac{1}{4}$  Barrels worth 4097.<sup>50</sup>

By your special permission, I was enabled in October last, to visit the speckled trout streams of the townships of Erin and Caledon, and while there I had the pleasing opportunity of visiting the Speckled Trout Breeding Establishments of Mr. Wellington Hull, at Erin village, and Mr. George A. Lacey, at Hillsburg, both places being in the Township of Erin, and County of Wellington.

I here subjoin the copy of a letter, I received from Mr. Geo. A. Lacey, giving details of his speckled trout and Irish Breeding Establishment at Hillsburg.

I hope it will prove interesting to you.

Here follows Mr. Lacey's letter.

I have had no report from Mr. Wellington Hull, Erin Village Trout Breeding Establishment, since the 18<sup>th</sup> of November last. -- At that time he had 4,500, Parent fish in his ponds, as reported to you by me on the 25<sup>th</sup> of that month. -- Besides a quantity of Ova hatching, laid down in troughs.

The Speckled Trout Breeding Establishment at Fallt, had 1,000, Parent fish on hand last fall, in their ponds. -- The proprietors did not then intend putting down any eggs to hatch.

Stringent measures require to be adopted and put in force against Foreigners who trout fish all the stream, and point in Erin, and Caledon; every year, and express the fish to Houses in Buffalo.

By your letter of instruction to me dated the 17<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of February last, I proceeded on special duty, last February and March, from the western limits of my division on Lake

ree, examined and enquired into the fishing on Point  
Pelee, and Point Pelee Island &c. up the Lake to Amherst-  
burg, with regard to Pound Nets &c. - He got the fish  
pounds in the Detroit River, in which the fishermen  
of that locality, keep alive thousands of white fish  
during the winter for the American market. The  
General state of the fishing on Lake St. Clair, River St.  
Clair, and from Point Edward, away up Lake Huron,  
giving full particulars of the minor and principal  
stations thereon, and the fishermen engaged at each, as  
far as Southampton, and the fishing Islands. - - -

I completed my reports on all these matters, and dis-  
patched to you the last document of Series on these  
subjects, on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of April last, and which  
I now hope have met your approbation. - -

With regard to the following Circulars which  
I received from you, I have the honor to state that  
I carried out the same without incurring any ex-  
pense to the Department of Marine and Fisheries.  
Copies of letters below. - -

These follow;

Copy of Circulars;

Letter to Professor Baird, and  
The Professor's Reply. -

In Conclusion, I beg most respectfully to draw your  
particular attention to Duffin Creek which requires  
some important improvement, to the Creek, so as to  
protect the Salmon beds, and afford them a sufficiency  
of water at all times, and permit the Salmon to  
go further up the stream above the dam, and on to  
better spawning grounds. - - - The present limited  
space, is not extensive enough for the Salmon  
that frequent this Creek in such abundance to  
spawn. -

All of which is respectfully submitted.



To the Honble  
The Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries  
Ottawa.

I have the honor to  
John W. Kerr  
Minister of Fisheries

Sir,

25, January 1873.

I have the honor to state for your information that I have just received an application from Messrs. William Page of Barton, on Burlington Bay in the County of Wentworth, and Robert Harris of the Township of Gloucestre, in the County of Elsey. ---

To license a fishery in Lake Erie, in front of lot No. 5, in the 1st Concession of Gloucestre, and County of Elsey. --- The extent of the lot is 90 Rods frontage on the Lake, and to extend from the beach in front of the said lot, into the Lake for a distance of three miles. --- For the purpose of fishing white fish, pike, and pickerel gill nets according to law and the rules and regulations made under the Fisheries Act. ---

Messrs. Page and Harris own and occupy the property lot No. 5, aforesaid in front of which they apply to establish a fishery. It is immediately west of the Harbour in front of the Village of Farmington in Eglar Bay. They offer five dollars for the privilege this year, which I strongly recommend may be accepted as a beginning.

Yours faithfully,  
Minister of  
Fisheries  
Ottawa.

I have the honor to  
John W. Kerr  
Minister of Fisheries

My dear Sir,

I send you license herewith, for all the pond as far as Mr Wisniewski's flats. I do this, so as to keep him and every other person off. - If however, he wants to fish there, I will give him a license to do so. - This is all I can do for him, he must abide by the law, "Copy herewith" - This order in Council tells the truth in the matter. - And now regarding the fish, I want you to catch, and kill all of them you can, by legal means. - You are not permitted to allow any person to fish in your legally licensed water unless by license from me. - I hope you understand me, and if any person does it apprise me at once. -

Yrs. &c

John W. Kerr

O. of J.

1<sup>st</sup> January 1873.

Mr Rich Albert,  
Jordan P. Office,  
Middle Port. -

Recd of 10 on acct of the license.

W. Kerr

O.O.

My dear Sir,

I received instruction to say that your services as Guardian, over Big Creek, &c. &c. were no longer required there. -

So far as I am individually concerned, I am grateful to you for services rendered to me in the past. - I sent in your receipts for money for services rendered by you for year past, and when I receive it, I shall remit the same to you. -

Yrs. Respectfully

John W. Kerr

O. of J.

Hamilton Onto.

3. 1<sup>st</sup> January 1873

To Mr John Brown

John Brown

John Brown. J. W. Kerr

Swi.

3<sup>rd</sup> February 1873.

I have the honor to receive your reply to an application I made to you for a fishery in that part of Lake Erie, called Pigeon Bay, situated in front of lot 7, No. 5, in the 1<sup>st</sup> Concession of Mersea, in behalf of Messrs. Large and Harris! - -

And in reply to your enquiry? - "Am I to understand that they designed setting floating nets, with pounds, or traps, or if they use the ordinary form of gill net" - I have the honor to inform you, that the intention was to fish about 800 yards of the ordinary form of gill net, 400 yards to be pink and pickerel, and 400 yards to be white fish gill net.

The reason they apply for the limits to enter a three miles outwards into the Lake, is that they may occasionally set their gill net at any time wherever they please within the limits they applied for. -

I have a note to write in behalf of the applicants, Large and Harris, only that they don't mean to make a big business of it merely to use the fish for their own use.

I Have &amp;c

John W. Kerr

Per A.



My dear Sir

I received instruction to notify you that your services as Guardian are no longer required. -- You are not dispensed with because of any complaint on the contrary there is nothing against you. -- I sent in your account on full this day, and when I receive the money will send it to you without delay. -- Believe me as ever and always --

Yours sincerely

John W. Kerr

Overseer of Fisheries  
Hamilton, Ontario

6<sup>th</sup> January 1873. --

Peter Price Esq  
St. William

Sent letters as follows; this day 3<sup>rd</sup> of February 1873. --

Joe Moon. Pt. Union. --

Joe McDell, Rouge Hill; --

Postage  
16¢

John Fisher, Durhamston. --

Wm. Lang - Pt. Union. --

Wm. St. Leger, Cashmere, & copy of J. Act & order in Council about license. --

My dear Sir,

You will please send me your license money on receipt, and I will send you at once your license for this current year.

Yrs Respectfully

John W. Kerr

O. of F. --

6. January 1873.

Council about license

Yrs

John W. Kerr

O. of Fisheries

Mr. Charles A. Harris

Port Erie

P.S. please find an order in Council about license herewith.

Sir,

8. February 1873.

I have the honor to apply to you for one dozen copies of the Fisheries Act. -

I also require 100 copies of the order in Council, prohibiting persons fishing in any of the waters of Ontario &c, except under leases, and licenses from the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

The

I Have &amp;c,

Hon<sup>ble</sup>

John W. Kern

The Minister &amp;c,

O. of I.

Ottawa.

Sir,

11. February 1873.

I have the honor to send you cheque No. for the sum of \$25. - -

This amount you will please apply on fishing station at Fort Erie &c, on the Niagara River, for this current year, as per copy of the issued license to Mr Thomas Everett, herewith.

I Have &amp;c,

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister  
&c. &c. &c.  
Ottawa

John W. Kern  
O. of I.

Friday. 6. February 1873. -

+ At the Heights on the Bay, on the beach, Barney Row, Jerry & Robert Bent, paid me each \$1. - for spearing license on the bay. across from John Lynes to town. found all regular. Called at Mr Charles Depew, all well there. miles about 20. H<sup>is</sup> sleigh, dinner self & son 50<sup>¢</sup>, feed for mare and hire 2.50. -

postage 6<sup>¢</sup>

Sir

8. February 1873,

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank  
cheque No. 117, for the sum of twenty dollars. -

You will be pleased to apply the same  
as follows: Viz,

1. Peter Bath, a fisherman at Port Dalhousie, in Lake  
Ontario, License fee, for the year 1871, only just now  
paid to me. - - - - \$ 5.00

do. do. for the year 1872. - - - - " 5.00

2. Peter Bath, license fee at Port Dalhousie,  
in Lake Ontario, for this current year. Copy  
of license herewith. - - - - " 5.00

3. S. B. Gregory, license fee for fishing station,  
No. 15, on B. beach, in Lake Ontario, for this cur-  
rent year - Copy of license herewith. - - - - " 5.00

Total, \$ 20.00.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister

H. C. H. C.

Ottawa.

I have &amp;c

John W. Kerr

C. of Fisheries

Sir

14. February 1873,

I have the honor to send you Bank  
cheque No. 125, for \$ 25 dollars. -

You will please apply this amount on  
the fishery situated in the Niagara River &c, at Y<sup>t</sup>  
Erie, Mr. Chester A. Harris, Licensee, as per  
annexed Copy of License. - - -

I have &amp;c

John W. Kerr

C. of Fisheries

Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Minister,

H. C. H. C.

Ottawa.



Sir,

11. February 1893.

I have the honor to state for your information that in a conversation I had with Mr T. C. Livingston an Insurance Agent here on yesterday evening, he stated to me that he was getting a lease of a portion of B. beach, and is to obtain a Deed of another portion of it from the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Mr Scott the Commissioner of Crown Lands, for the Province of Ontario, at Toronto. -

I consider it my duty to apprise you of this matter, so that the Fishing rights enjoyed by the Fishermen there may be respected, - And that you will be pleased to see that no rights established under your department are invaded either on B. bay or Lake Ontario by the issuing of this said lease &c. by the Local Govt, for any portion of the said B. beach.

I Have &c  
John W. Kerr  
C. of I.

Hon. Ministers  
&c. &c. &c.  
B. W. W.

18. Feb: 1873,

I have the honor to send your Bank  
Cheque No: 129, for 18 dollars. -

This amount you will be pleased to ap-  
ply as follows; viz: - Licenses to the undersigned. -  
1. to Mr. Wm. McFadden, fishing station No: 14, on Rus-  
sington Beach, in Lake Ontario - for current year,  
as per copy of license herewith in full. - \$5.00 +  
2, Mr Jacob Beidau, fishing station Nos: 2 and 3,  
in Lake Erie, at Port Bruce, Township of Chatham  
Co., for this current year, copy of license, you  
will please find herewith, - on acct 13.00  
Total \$ 18.00 +.

Hon: Minister  
Hc. Hc. Hc.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
John W. Kern  
O. C.

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to find herewith  
your license for this current year, I shall have  
to charge you twenty dollars - that is ten dol-  
lars, for each station. - I shall be up as  
soon as fishing commences. - -

Mr Jacob Beidau,  
fisherman

Yrs sincerely -

John W. Kern  
O. C.

Port Bruce. -  
Care of Captain Thompson -  
Harbor Master,  
On Lake Erie

18. Feb 1873. -

My dear Sir

Will you be pleased to find here =  
with the sum of 15 dollars, I obtained for you, for  
services rendered me last year at Big Creek in con-  
nection with the Pickens fisheries there! - -

Although not permitted to employ you of-  
ficially under remuneration any more - I hope I  
shall still have your kind aid occasionally, so  
kindly bestowed gratis always heretofore

My kind respects to you and yours.

"Sent one to each"

Believe me,

Wm. Lot Spencer  
and Owen Brown

Very sincerely yours,  
John W. Kerr

P. S. Royal - -

O. of J.

Township - Walsingham - -

24 Feb 1873.

P. S.

Please find two notes you wrote  
me for - post them and oblige.

W. W.

John W. Kerr

O. of J.

Paid for Post office  
order  
\$1. -



My dear Mac. -

While you be pleased to find herewith the sum of \$15. dollars, I got for you for services rendered about them notes &c. &c.

Please keep an eye to Blairs, James Young and other saw mills, - Oliver Asher, stove factory, illegal trout fishing, dye stuffs - up Mill Creek so that if that uncomfortable creature Billy Bowman or any of his kind - resort to lies, you will occupy a position he cannot invade. - Please write, and let me know how matters stand! Remember me kindly to my name sake your worthy Mayor. -

I have so far escaped the Rheumatism this winter, but have twice been laid up with a severe cold. - Believe me Very Truly Yours  
John W. Kerr

Mr Thomas MacDonald,  
Chief Constable,  
Galt, - Ont.

C. of Fishers,  
Hamilton, Ont.  
24. Feb 1873. -

✓ Saturday. 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1873. & 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. -  
At Chippawa, Huron Island, the following persons live on the Island, Wm. Parker, used to fish in years past. - Thomas Parker, Philip Shaver, has a small seine, and hauls during the season, catches balf, perch, pickrel, pike, bull heads, and mackinongs. - Ransom Day, and Julius Page. they don't fish. - D. B. Whistler Esq. M. J. and Wm. H. Harkins Esq. City Engineers, were with me. - I met Thomas Everitt by appointment at Suspension Bridge to talk about the trout fishing recently by him, and to hear what C. A. Starnes had to say on the subject, went out at 8. A. M. Came in at 6. A. M. Sunday morning, miles 118. - By H & C. Boat and Carriage. -

My dear Peter,

Will you be pleased to find  
herewith the sum of £8. dollars, (Post office order)  
being in full of all salary and incidentals up to  
and ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December last, when your  
services terminated by order from the department.  
I received your kind letter, and the Turkey which  
you kindly sent me arrived safe.

Will settle with you for them, when I come up. -  
It has been a very severe winter, and several of the  
old settlers have died here, during the winter. -

Should you see Second, please tell him he can  
have the place, but let him send me money at  
once, and I will send him a license. - Remember  
me kindly to Mr Price, your daughter, George  
and his wife and Wm.

I only got the money on Friday last, but  
having to go down on Navy Island on Saturday  
did not get back until 6 o'clock, a.m., on Sun-  
day morning. I hope you will continue to write me  
occasionally, as I will be always glad to hear  
from you, and if you want to fish yourself,  
let me know. Believe me as usual.

Sincerely yours

Peter Price Esq  
St. William  
Walsingham P. Office

John W. Price...  
O. of District  
24 Feb: 1873.

Postage paid 15¢  
Telegrams to 50¢

Postage to Wilmet 3¢  
to Mounting 3¢

W. J. Adams 3¢  
Mr. Price 3¢  
Mr. Price 3¢  
Mr. Price 3¢

Sir,

24. February 1873.

I have much pleasure in sending you here= with the sum of thirty dollars. . . .

This amount is for services rendered by you during the quarter ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December last, as Guardian in connection with the Dominion Fisheries at Long Point, in Lake Erie, to which you have been appointed on my recommendation. . . .

That part of the Point, Long Point, to which you are appointed will be from your own house or residence along the Lake to the New Cut, thence from the New Cut along the Bay to the fisheries at the Second Island. Thence in a direct course across the marsh to your own residence again. . . . Together with all the internal, external, and intermediate places for fishing and fisheries situated in the Long Point marsh, and within the said limits, and as far out as mid channel on the Bay side. . . . And for a distance of five miles, into the Lake, from the beach shore. . . .

But you will bear in mind, that beyond those limits you are not at present required to go, except to assist "John Dennis" down at the Bluff. . . . You are not to interfere with the Fisheries on the Main land, all and every infraction or contraventions of the Fishery act, committed by any person and every one, you will at all times report to me immediately. . . .

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr.

O. of Fisheries

Mr Wm H. Leary,  
The Steward  
Long Pt.  
Port Rowan.



Sir,

27. February 1873.

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank cheque No: 140, for twenty five dollars. . . .

Will you be pleased to apply this amount on fishing stations on the Niagara River at Pt Erie, and the Wind Mill point on Lake Erie. . . .

That is to say; Commencing at the Lower Ferry on the Niagara River, thence up the River, and Lake to Wind Mill point, a distance of about five miles. . . . The license Mr Chester A. Harris, has held the place for several years past, and in the River portion of it are seven seine hauling grounds: Four of these I have licensed to Harris, which I consider sufficient, as per my letter, and copy of license sent you on the 14<sup>th</sup> instant, for this current year. The balance three hauling grounds he, I licensed to Mr Thomas Everitt, for a similar sum to that paid by Harris, for the whole, see my letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> instant. . . .

The amount now sent, is on a/c<sup>t</sup> of the years 1872, and 1871.

I Have &c.

Hon. Minister,  
&c. &c. &c.  
Ottawa,

John W. Kerr  
C. of M.

My dear Sir.

Will you be pleased to find herewith the sum of Fifteen dollars, being services rendered in connection with the Fisheries in the Township of Coladon up to and ending 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 1872, "At Head of Credit".

I only received the money on yesterday from Mr. Samuel Wilcox of the Fish Breeding Establishment at New Castle, Ontario, through whom this money is paid.

Yours truly,

Mr. W. Higgins, -

Alton, P. Office. -

John W. Barry,

Quebec of Fisheries. -

28 Feb: 1873. -

Wednesday, 26. February 1873. -

at Wynona, Lake Ontario, to see Paddy Standa, Fisherman went out at 8. a. m. came in at 5 p. m. - Miles 36.

Ry. - 45¢ St & Sleigh 1.50. found all regular. - - -

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March 1873. -

at P<sup>z</sup> Credit, to see James Wilcox, paid him \$20. for watching Credit last October and November went out at 8. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. Miles 60. - Ry fare 1.80<sup>2</sup> St & Cutter 1.50, dinner 30<sup>c</sup>. -

Monday, 3. March 1873. -

at Toronto, Dufferin Creek and Port Union, paid W. Hartwick 40<sup>c</sup>, and W. Ferguson 30<sup>c</sup>, and Joe Moon 15 for protecting Salmon also gave Joe Marshall 25 for same. went out at 8. a. m. came in at 7. p. m. Ry fare 2.05<sup>2</sup> St & Cutter 3.50<sup>2</sup> dinner, tea, bed &c. - 1.50. - - Miles about 75. - - 7.05

X. Tuesday, 4, March 1873.

At Port Union and Toronto, went out at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  p.m.  
came in at 8. p.m. Miles about 20. Board 1.50.  
By fare 55. -

Wednesday 5, March 1873. -

X. At Ashbridges Bay, Toronto, at Biltons and Tay-  
lors made enquiries about Salmon, and Speckled  
Trout. they reported they got them from Fraser  
Co. - Quebec and Montreal. - saw Gen. Marsh  
and others out fishing. went out at 8. a.m.  
came in at 9. p.m. - Miles about 52.  
By fare 1.30. Board 75. -

Fishing Overseer's office.  
Hamilton, Ontario.

6. March 1873. -

Sir.

Yours of the 1<sup>st</sup> instant, is received. -  
I have no business of a pressing nature to  
bring me at present to Fort Erie. -

I know long since the intrinsic value  
of the Fort Erie Fisheries. - - - I will not  
make any change nor disposition of the  
Fisheries there this year, from that at pre-  
sent fixed. - - And there is no use in  
your grumbling nor threatening, where  
you have no real cause whatever for  
doing either. -

Yours  
C. A. Harris.  
Fort Erie.

Yours respectfully  
John W. Kent  
Oshawa



Sir,

8. March 1873.

I have the honor to send you herewith  
Bank cheque No: 150, for the sum of Twenty five dol-  
lars. - - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as  
follows; for this current year. - - -

1. Mr. John Long, License to fish in Burlington Bay, for  
pike. - Copy herewith \$5.00
  2. Mr. John Morley, Licensed to fish in Lake Ontario  
in front of Scarborough, Copy of license herewith. - \$15.00
  3. Mr. George Whyte, Licensed to fish in Whitby  
Bay. - Copy herewith. - 5.00
- Total \$25.00

I Have &amp;c.

Hon<sup>ble</sup>

Minister &c. &c. &c.  
Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
Overseer of Fisheries

Sir,

8. March 1873.

I have the honor to report for your in-  
formation, that I shall require about forty Ser's  
license, and forty boat license in duplicate for  
my fishing district for this current year. -

I Have &amp;c.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister  
&c. &c. &c.  
Ottawa,

John W. Kerr  
Overseer

Write James Garrie Postages 9¢  
and Wm. Miles -

My dear Stillwell,

Money

Will you please find herewith fifteen dollars, being for services rendered as Guardian last October and November in protecting the Salmon in the Stilland Creek. - Can suckers and Salmon come up all the way to your mill now? -

Yrs truly,

John W. Kerr

Ouellet.

Wm Stillwell Esq  
Stilland Creek,

Township of Scarborough. - 10. March 1873.

Registered - 5¢.

My dear Sir,

Money.

Will you be pleased to find herewith the sum of Twenty dollars, being for service rendered by you as Guardian on Lyons Creek last October and November in protecting the Salmon there. - - -

I send you a copy of the Fisheries Act. - please read Section 15 of this act and be governed by it, as regards Lyons Creek. - Allow no person to fish there unless by written permission from me. - Let me hear what was done to the Camerons. -

Yrs Truly,

John W. Kerr

Ouellet.

10. March 1873.

Registered 5¢.

James Storey Esq  
Whitby Post Office.

Sent License

to Help's Pat. Gray paid 1¢ postage

" George White " 1¢ - "

" John Morley. " 1¢ - "

and Fisheries Act to James Storey - 3¢.

" Letter to Mr Miles Hagarville 3¢.

" James Harris Turkey 3¢.

Monday, 10, March 1873.

On the bay, and B. beach, found all regular, Tom Jones, John and W. Bates in front of Jags Inlet spearing. Duncan McEliveray was out. - Menzie and his son Mat Thompson and Harry Morice - Morice paid me one dollar for the licensed privilege he enjoys, went out at 9, a.m. came in at 3, p.m. Miles about 18. H. Bay & horse feed \$2. -

12 March 1873.

Letter to Misses 3 to Gray, Wm. Russell, James Low and Wm. Hartwick - postage 12¢. -

Licenses - To David Reed, and John Broadfoot 4¢  
Letters to Peter Price and Nathan Woodward  
and two notices to the latter. - of

My dear Sir.

I have received instructions from the Hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries - Ottawa. to inspect the mill dams on the Smiths Creek, respecting which you wrote me last year. -

As soon as my hurry this spring is over, I will attend to what you require of me regarding this Creek - from Paris to Walsingham. -

Believe me Respectfully Yours

John W. Brown

Overseer of Fisheries

17. March 1873.

Wm. Baldwin Esq  
Washington  
Blanchette Township



Sir.

March 1873.

I have the honor to send you herewith  
cheque No: 168, for the sum of Thirty dollars. --  
you will please apply as follows;  
for the years 1872, and 1873. --

1. Mr John Fisher, of Frenchmans Bay, in Lake Ontario, on acct of License for year 1872. only received as part payment this day. Will send copy of license with the balance in a few days 40.00
  2. William Elliott, of Port Burwell, in Lake Erie, License to fish during this current year on acct 5.00.
  3. Wm Russell, Mount Stealy, License for self and others, in the Grand River there for this current year. -- 10.00
  4. Messrs John Logan, Philander Carey, Moreene Green & boy. -- Dunnville, License to fish in the Grand River at Dunnville, and in Sulphur Creek, at Byng, only on acct for this current year. 5.00
- Total \$ 30.00

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
Minister of Fisheries.

Hon: The Minister  
&c. &c. &c.  
Ottawa, ---

Tuesday, 18, March 1873. --

at St. Catharines, Mr Colborne and Dunnville, to  
give out Licenses, sent to Messrs John Logan  
Philander Carey, and Moreene Green, for 9,  
being and 17, Dip Nets, went out at 8,  
A.M. Came in at 4. P.M. Mile about  
90, At St. 1.50, By fare 1.30. 75, 75. --  
dinner tea and bed 75. Busf 20¢

5.25

Sir,

21. March 1873,

I have the honor to report for your information, that I propose allowing persons, "fishermen", to fish for Pike and suckers in the following Salmon Creeks, this spring vizt. - In Lyons Creek, Duffies Cr., The Rouge, - The Island Creek, The Humber, and the River Credit. - -

I hope this proposition will at once meet your approbation. - My objects are of a two fold nature. - - I desire first, that the people may get a supply of these fish at once, because they will be highly prized at this present " Lent", time. -

And Secondly; Because I desire this spring, to get rid of another batch of pike, so as to give the Salmon fry fair play.

Except the Humber - all the Creeks referred to are set apart for the propagation of Salmon, via Section 15, of the Act. -

I Have the

John W. Kerr

Deputy of Fisheries

Hon. Minister,  
He He He  
Ottawa,

+ Wednesday 19. March 1873. -  
at Dunville and Byng. - thence toaledonia  
breakfast, dinner tea and bed off 1.00. By fare  
65¢, while about 25 travelled to-day. -

Postage 30, and 18,

Sir,

21, March 1873.

I have the honor to report for your information, that I have just returned home from the Grand River, at Dunville, and Mount Healy, and I find that as soon as the water clears up, after the spring freshets, that a number of people, will be out on the Grand River, spearing with light jacks at night. -

Maskinonge, Walleye, and Pike, are the fish they will go for. - It will take me about one week or ten days, at least to square up matters in this behalf. - Hence my reason for bringing this matter under your consideration for approval. -

Hon: Minister,  
H.C. V.C. V.C.  
Ottawa,

I have &c  
John H. Kirk  
Inspector of Fisheries

X Thursday. - 20, March 1873. -  
at Caledonia, York, Mount Healy, and  
Hamilton, issued license to Mr. Russell at  
Mr. Healy. - Noted Donaldson about al-  
lowing saw dust in River from saw  
mill - also Mr. John Ball Caledonia  
went out 5, a.m. came in at 6. p.m.  
mile about 40. - Horse & Baggage  
\$4.25. dinner breakfast \$1.00, Stage  
75¢. -

Monday. 24<sup>th</sup>  
Letter to John Fisher 3¢, Letter to Joe Moon 3¢  
License do - 1¢ do, Wm Randall 3¢  
" Wm Cowan 1¢ do, 15¢  
" Joe Moon, 1¢  
" Wm Randall 1¢



\* Sunday 23. March 1873.

at Depew's Inlet, W. L. G. Thridge had a net set in the Inlet - for pike, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 2. p. m. - Miles about 16. 544 sleep off 1.60 y

Thursday 27. March 1873. -

\* At Depew's Inlet, where a good view could be had at the Bay east from there, and to see Mr Charles Depew who was very ill, went out at 2. p. m. came in at 6. p. m. Miles about 16. 544 Cutter, \$ 1.80 y, also at Mr W. L. G. Thridge's. - -

\* Friday 28. March 1873. -

On B. beach, to give out license for Pike gill net fishing went out at 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> a. m. came in at 6. p. m. Miles about 26. 544 sleep 2.50, -

\* Monday April 1<sup>st</sup> 1873. - -

at B. beach, gave John Bate his license for pike gill net fishing he paid me \$3. Gave Mr Bate and Tom Jones their license not yet paid for. - D. McIlwray, John Borey, Mortimer Borey. David Ditch, David Armstrong, Alex. Rolles, Jack Laafe, Ric<sup>d</sup> Laafe. Prince Depew, Sam<sup>d</sup> Dyne, Jr a boy, Sam<sup>d</sup> McIlwray, Ben Jold and Al<sup>d</sup> Croy all fishing and preparing to fish went out at 8. a. m. came in at 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> p. m. Miles 30. bad Road. - 544 B. Hc. 3.00

Total postage  
for quantum ending  
31 March, \$2.30 y  
besides \$1 for P. office  
order  
75 for Salaparr

Sir,

April 1<sup>st</sup> 1873.

I have the honor to receive your instruction to report upon the petition of Mr Thomas Campbell, Tavern Keeper at the Wood Market Square - Hamilton. -

In reply, I beg to report to you that Campbell has a house on B. beach, not yet completed, but I have heard it only cost \$750. - -

It is situated on one of the lots, an acre of the land he refers to, but he holds no legal title nor any title to the premises, beyond what the fact of his building a house thereon, would give him. - - A separate right is invested in T. H. Corey, a fisherman on B. beach, - -

In the year 1845, (T. H. Corey) bought out the right of one John Livingston who first pitched his tent there in the year 1833. -

It is not correct that the fishing in Lake Ontario, in front of these two lots 2 acres referred to by Campbell, was ever connected with this property. It never was!! This assertion is wrong!!!

There is an ill feeling, a family squabble at head and tail of this affair which to be brief, "altho reluctantly". I shall be obliged to allude to, because I want no such disputable grounds with the Fisheries, as are now attempted in this instance by Mr Thomas Campbell on B. beach.

Campbell got married to T. H. Corey's eldest daughter, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 1869, having induced her to leave her father's house <sup>with him</sup> at the dead of night previously. - After they got married, they moved away to Monroe, Michigan, remained there Tavern keeping for one year, then they returned to B. beach, and with the sanction and concurrence of T. H. Corey and wife they went into a small cottage to live, situated on one of the

lots now alluded to which Mrs. Corey told me she had given her daughter Campbell's wife for them to reside in. -

This was in July 1870. - Campbell soon after this with his eyes open, commenced to build this house he now refers to you by petition to adjudicate upon. -

Disagreement took place, his wife cleared out, and after a time Campbell and his wife becoming good friends. They moved into the Wood Market Square, Hamilton, in February 1872. - To keep Taveru there leaving the New House on B. B. Ch. unoccupied and still unfinished. - Being there for some time, last year, his wife left him, from bad treatment it was said. - Law Courts were resorted to, by J. N. Corey and Campbell, the result fines and costs, with bitter bad feelings each side. - - -

The breach between Campbell and wife was then made up. - But she recently left him again, and she now resides at home with her father and mother on B. B. Ch.

Jacob Corey, referred to, by Campbell, from whom the latter states he purchased the two acres of land, is only son of J. H. Corey, and brother of Mrs. Campbell. - - - Jacob Corey, stated to me <sup>on this subject</sup> that one day, during the summer of 1871, after the House was raised to its present position, and not last year, as erroneously stated in Campbell's petition. - He (Jacob Corey) was on the spree, and went into Campbell's new house, he Campbell keeps an unlicensed Tavern there at the time, Campbell gave Jacob off 2, and Jacob gave Campbell a quit claim of the one lot, an acre on which the House was then built, and standing upon. - - - Jacob now says Campbell then drew up the writing himself, he signed his name to it, altho' he states he never read it.



but he now positively says he did not then, nor at any time own the two acres of land on B. B. Campbell now petitioning you for, as purchased by Campbell from him. —

In respect to Campbell paying 2000<sup>#</sup> for this House, as he states in the petition, it is simply a false assertion. Joe McLearty of Port Nelson, the carpenter, who built the House, was cheated out of a large amount of his pay by Campbell. —

Then a fight ensued between Campbell & McLearty. Campbell beat McLearty, — and McLearty and Campbell fined \$20, and Cost for selling whiskey on a Sunday without a license, in this said house. — — — This took place in 1871. —

To show you the real character of this self styled "Master Mariner". Mr W. J. Murray, at one time a partner of Kerr, Brown & Co., an Alton Merchant, has a summer residence, a cottage on B. B. Campbell when building his House there, stole three windows from this cottage besides other material, and had these windows put into the Kitchen part of the New House.

Captain Caddy, a gentleman resident here, who stopped in this Cottage, part of the summer of the year 1871, compelled him to bring back then (2) two of the windows, and restore them to their proper place again in Mr. Murray's Cottage, but the third window stolen still occupies a place as a Kitchen window in Campbell's house. —

The third window was pointed out to me this day by David Wells, referred to, by name in Campbell's petition. —

Mr. Thomas Campbell represents himself to you in his petition as Master Mariner.

when in reality he is a Tavern Keeper. —

But as he alluded to this Master Marine himself for an object I suppose. — I will here inform you what I was told to-day by Jacob Corey, his brother-in-law.

Jacob states the last vessel Campbell sailed, was the Allie of Montreal, and that he stole her out of American waters, and from an American owner; took her into Canadian waters through the Welland Canal into Lake Ontario, put her up for sale, and sold her for \$1,500 pocketing the money. —

The conduct of Mr Thomas Campbell regarding the allegation put forward by him in his petition together with my report therein is now respectfully submitted for your perusal and consideration. Personally I have no object — in view, beyond that of telling you all the real facts as they are, and thereby prevent you from being misled by erroneous statements. —

I have to apologise for going to such length in my report in this case. —

I Have &c  
John W. Kern

Hon. Minister  
H. H.

Ottawa. —

P.S. I cannot say a word in Mr Thomas Campbell's behalf.

J. W. Kern  
A

+ Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> of April 1873. -

At Toronto, and Ashbridges bay to see John Gurnell, and W<sup>m</sup> Montgomery gave license to them to fish pike gill nets there up to 10<sup>th</sup> of May. - amount to be \$20. - - to W<sup>m</sup> Hardy - do, amount paid 10<sup>¢</sup>, to Mr Gray to fish Black house, Maskinonge, at the Humber and Humber Marsh and from West of Humber Bridge to the millico, went out at 8. a. m, came in at 6.30. p. m, miles about 50. - - Ry fare 1.30, <sup>4</sup> Bugary 1.50, <sup>4</sup> dinner tea and bed 75. - -

Postages today 6¢

+ Friday 4. April 1873,

At Toronto and home went out 6.30 a. m, came in at 2. p. m, miles about 45, Railway fare 1.30, breakfast 25. - -

Mailed letters to R. H. Carroll, Eugeneville  
3¢ A. B. Chisholm - nil.  
Philander Carey, Dunville 3¢,  
David Hickerson, St Catharines 3¢,  
John Fisher, St. Mary, bay. - 3¢,  
W<sup>m</sup> Halliwell Miland Creek 3¢.



Sir,

12. April 1873,

I have the honor to report for your information that on my arrival on Turkey Pt. on Tuesday last, I found that Richard Clarke of Turkey Pt. had over a few days previously to fish pike gill nets on Long point under the connivance of James Le-Rose a brother-in-law. -

Le-Rose leaves there at the end of this month because he allowed a relative of his to shoot on the Com-pany's property. -

I went over to Long point, and gave orders to the Watchman, leaving the guardian there to remove Clarke off Long point at once subject also to your decision as to whether I shall prosecute him for fishing without a license from the department. See order in Council dated 23. August 1870. -

My course in this case has met the approval of Long Pt. Com. Solicitor. -

I Have &c.

Hon: The Minister  
&c. &c. &c.

John W. Ross  
O.

B. H. H. H.

12. April 1873.

Sir, I have the honor to report for your information that complaints have been (made) laid before me against several persons for spearing pike in beards bay through the ice without a license from the department of Marine and Fisheries and which they sold making as high as forty dollars many of them by this fishing. -

This is another cause of complaint that has been brought under my notice and as the people of the locality have had privileges not enjoyed by persons in other localities, I lay the complaint before you and you will please say, if I shall prosecute. -

Hon: Minister,

I Have &c.

&c. &c. &c.

John W. Ross  
O.

B. H. H. H.

Sir

12. April 1873.

I have to report for your information that Mr Nathan Woodward of Port Rowan who was deputed to look after and protect the Fisheries at Pine Creek and Marsh and the Inner bay, and Turkey point - Lake Erie, has not done so, and has not been in a position to do so, for the fact, that he has been all the time engaged in building a wharf at St William's...

I have asked Peter Price to look after the Pickled Close time and White fish seine hauling this quarter, which he has promised to do.

I Have &amp;c

Yours Minister

H. V. Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
O.

12. April 1873.

Sir I have the honor to report for your information that George Holmes, who has caused so much trouble and expense to the Fisheries dept last season by fishing in "pickled close time" when his seine nets were seized, has resorted to the same illegal means again, and commenced to fish again on Long Point without a license from the Fisheries department...

I received a letter from this man dated the 19<sup>th</sup> of March last asking a permit to fish on Long Pt and for a license to fish on Turkey Pt. - The latter I declined to give him because of his illegal proceedings heretofore...

And regarding his fishing on Long Pt John D. Mackenzie Esq. the Secretary of the Long Pt Coy and I consulted about this matter of Geo. Holmes

3

before I went up, I also mentioned the matter to the Colonel. - And the result of my instructing the Guardian on Long Point, to turn him off the Point has been approved of. - Mr. Whitaker is aware that Andrew Holmes, a sleeper on Long Point, who bought the Seine net from George - then in my possession, was not to allow George to come on the point to fish any more.

And Andrew has not only allowed him to come there, and fish, but George Holmes still owns half of the Seine, they have been fishing there this season. -

Shall I prosecute George Holmes. . . .

There is great injustice done towards our licensed fishermen, by brother, and brother-in-laws of Long pt employees being permitted as in the case of Clarke and Holmes, which I now lay before you, catching and killing fish of a superior class, and with outselling legally licensed fishermen. . . . Besides the employees catch fish all through the winter and spring and sell them. -

Great force and just argument have been used by the licensed fishermen with me, to lay these things before you. - They ask from you redress. -

I Have &c.  
John W. Kent  
A.

Hon. Ministers  
Hc. Hc. Hc.  
Ottawa.

4  
Pestuz 12,



+ Monday, 7. April 1873. ---  
 at Sengersoll, Silsberg, Vienna and Port Murrell,  
 gave out Licenses to  
 went out at 8. a. m. came in at 9.30. p. m. miles 108.  
 Ry fare \$1.95, stage fare \$1.75, dinner, tea and bed 1.00. ---

+ Tuesday 8. April 1873.  
 at Port Murrell, Port Royal, Port Rowan and Turkey  
 point, went out at 5. a. m. came in at 6. p. m. miles 34.  
 Stage <sup>\$4</sup> 1.50, breakfast, dinner tea and bed \$1.00

+ Wednesday, 9. April 1873. -  
 at Turkey point and Long point, went out at 8. a. m.  
 came in at 12. noon, miles 9, a boat and man. -  
 boat 3.50, board <sup>\$4</sup> 1.50. -

+ Thursday, 10. April 1873. -  
 at Long point, and Port Rowan, Turkey point  
 and Simcoe, boat and teams, <sup>\$4</sup> 1.50, boat, teams <sup>\$4</sup> 6.00  
 board and bed 1.00, miles 34, Bad Roads. - went out  
 at 8. a. m. came in 9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>. p. m. -

+ Friday 11. April 1873. -  
 at Simcoe, Brantford, Harrisburg, and Hamilton,  
 went out 8. a. m. came in at 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>. p. m. miles 50.  
 Ry fare \$1. --, stage \$1.75, breakfast dinner  
 and tea 75¢. ---

Sir,

12. April 1873. -

I have the honor to state for (your) the information of the department, that I returned here from Long Point, Lake Erie last evening, and beg to report that I found things not satisfactory there, so far as relates to the fisheries. -

I found that Messrs Isaac Becker and Saul Becker of Walsingham, had gone over there a short time ago, to Little Rice bay, or between Little Rice bay point, and a large rock, that stands prominent up in the air not more than 25 Rods below this rock, near Sturgeon Bay, Long point, and there they built and erected on the fishing land Reserve of 2, Charles a house, in which and where they reside trapping and shooting at this present time. -

It appears this small house was framed on the main land, took over on the ice, and put it up in the place I have here described to you. - The place is personally known to the Commissioner, Mr. Whitchee, as I have here referred to it. -

On my way home at Seneca, I saw Colonel Tisdale, the Long point Company's Solicitor, with whom I consulted on the matter. - The Colonel told me he had conversed with Mr. Whitchee on this subject, and after discussing the pros, and cons, - we arrived at the conclusion that I should make to you my official report, and ask for instructions regarding the future course I shall pursue and take against this high handed measure of the Messrs Becker who have put the house there as a rendezvous, for themselves and other illegal confederates. -

I perceive that this is at least a case of Willful trespass. - By Section 3, - It is not vacant public property - being occupied by the Long point Company under license. -

I perceive too, the erection of this House may be looked upon as an injury to the fishing grounds under Section 14, of the Act. -

If our present fishing law, is not sufficient to fully cover this case, I would recommend a very strong rule and regulation for to be at once issued to meet this case in all its particulars. - -

There may be some nets or other apparatus there which <sup>will</sup> justify me in proceeding under Sub Section 2, of Section 18, of the Act. -

Please tell me if I am justified in demolishing this house, built on a licensed fishing Reserve. -

As I have never had a case of this nature before, and having consulted with Mr. Ryerson, at present in retirement on the Point and Colonel Sisdale I have come to the conclusion of submitting this case for your consideration, and asking for your instruction as to my future guidance and the course of immediate action. I shall take in the premises. -

I Have &c

John J. Ryerson  
or

Minister  
of the  
Interior



Sir

14. April 1873.

I have the honor to apply to you for blank quarterly diary forms, as I have none on hand, and so have not been able to send you an abstract for the quarter ending on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March last.

I have &amp;c.

Hon. Ministers  
H. H. H.

Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
A.

14. April 1873.

Sir

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque No. 194, for the sum of \$32. -

This amount you will please apply as follows; for this current year of 1873. -

1. Help<sup>3</sup> John Logan Philander Carey, Monroe Green & boy. - Balance in full for fishing at Dunville &c. for current year, see back to my letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> of March. - - - - - \$25.00.

2. Thomas G. Purdy, and boy - License to fish dip nets, in the Otter Creek at Vienna below Suffolk dam, township of Northham for the current year. - Copy of License here - with. - - - - -

Total. - \$ 32.00

Hon. Ministers  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

I have &c.  
John W. Kerr  
A.

Sir

14. April 1873.

I have the honor to apply to you for an advance of \$100. on acct of travelling expenses for this current quarter.

I have &c.

John W. K.

Hon. Minister

He He

Ottawa.

W. J. Whitcher. -  
Commissioner of Fisheries. -  
Ottawa. -

Yes, pike gill nets, to the extent of about one seventh of the Bay, east of line <sup>run</sup> from Struble =

berry point, to Martins wharf. Men: Joe's seine hauling for suckers and pike, others preparing to begin. all to terminate on the 10<sup>th</sup> May next, will report fully. -

16. April 1873. -

Collect.

John W. K.

a.

+

Tuesday 15. April 1873. -

at Port Credit and Springfield, gave Isaac Monery, and George Brozier license to fish in Credit River, from Upper dam to the Indian Village, to terminate on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June. Suckers and Mullet fish caught. - went out at 8. a. m. came in at 7<sup>1/2</sup> p. m. Miles 66. - \$4 & 25<sup>¢</sup>. dinner & tea 50<sup>¢</sup>, Ry fare \$1.90. - license \$5. - Salmon, if any are to be liberated. - - -

Sir,

16, April 1873.

I have the honor to receive your telegram, which I have answered, and now report particulars. . . .

The fishermen on B. beach, are now engaged fishing pike gill nets, in B. bay, east, and south east of a line drawn from Starveys or Stuckleberry point Barton, to Mrs Martin's - B. beach. . . This portion of the bay, is about equal to one seventh of the whole bay. The fishermen are succeeding very well; the pike are in abundance, and the take so far in excess of last year. The licenses will terminate on the 10<sup>th</sup> of May next, after which pike becoming soft and clammy, are no longer good for food in hot weather. . . . Please refer to my letter to you of the 12<sup>th</sup> of February 1872, for pike gill net fishing - ("granted by you") within the limits here described. . . .

Then from J. H. Gore's house to the canal, a distance of about one mile on the Beach, I intend this year to have seine hauling in operation, if water is deep enough to allow it. . . . This is a privilege enjoyed by the fishermen with your sanction in this place, every spring for some years past. . . .

The seine hauling in this place, last year, was a failure on acct of the low state of the water. . . .

Pike and Suckers, the principle fish caught on these seine hauling grounds having kept beyond the reach of the gear being fished there for a short time last year, during spring. . . .

Then beyond the canal at the boundary line between Filmer's and the Brant farm, is the hauling ground of Ben: Loe's. . . . He had a load of Pike and Suckers in the market here, on Saturday last, the first this season. . . . All licenses in B. Bay will terminate on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May next. . . .



From the unusual severity of the late long winter the fishermen and their families on B. Bay in number about 100 persons, were not in very affluent circumstances, when the ice and snow just recently left them. - But although not wealthy, they are becoming comfortable every year: - And only for a temporary job at the Water Works B. Bay some of our fishermen would be in extreme want last winter. - I must be just, as well as generous. -

When the ice began to move in the bay this year, knowing the condition of the fishermen, their wants &c. &c. - And to alleviate the discomfort they might be labouring under. - I gave permission to them one and all under license not yet paid for, to go for the pike, and with a small piece of pike gill net set here, set there, and some piece set even between the cracks in the ice, and in some instances set under the ice, all the pieces of the pike gill net however, being only set within the space of the Bay, allotted to the fishermen last year, by you, and then set apart for them by me. - And the fishermen done so, and except a few suckers and <sup>a few</sup> speckled hags, no other kinds of fish have been been caught by them, but pike. -

Now as to seine hauling in B. Bay none have been hauled this year, except by Blue, Jones, and that for the first time was on last Friday. -

Had I not permitted the privilege I allude to, perhaps want and hunger might be by this time staring (them in the face) some of our fishermen and their families in the face. - - -

The occupation of a fisherman is hard work. - His position in life is that of a hard working man, He sometimes, as in days of yore stays all the night and catches

nothing, while sometimes joy comes to him in the morning. His only enjoyment of life is fishing for a living. --- And since the fishermen have commenced fishing this year, and have been catching pike and suckers, their families wants are relieved and provided for; and I feel rejoiced in telling you that it is so, and as I have no more to add,

I have &c,

Hon. Ministers  
H. H. H.  
Albany,

John W. Kane  
or,

X

Thursday, 17. April 1873. -

At B. bay, examining and making inspection of Oil. - traced the oil from Mr. W. J. J. inlet back of his house all way up to the Oil Refinery near Mr. John Sands. - Just as I got half way up from the Inlet to the Refinery I met black oily tar Coloured stuff running down towards the Inlet, it came out of a wooden pipe dropped into a hole and thence flowed over into the drain that empties into the Inlet. Saw the person in charge of the Refinery - It belongs to Parsons Brothers. - -

Mr. W. J. J. gave me a two pound hump he found on his point amongst the oil washed up on the bay there along the beach. I also found another hump myself alive in the oil, but suffering from oil effects. Had those humps cleaned and cooked, but no person could eat them, because they were impregnated with oil. - Saw other fish dead along the bay beach, went out at 8. A. M. Came in at 6. P. M. Phils about 16. Boat, Man. 44 Buggy, 2.50. Man 1.50. -

Sir,

19. April 1873. -

I have the honor to send you my account and diary for the quarter ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March last. Very

The amount of the diary is, - - -	\$ 46. 20.
1. John W. Kerr, disbursed for housekeeping	\$ 50. 00.
2. John W. Kerr, Postages, -	2. 30.
3. John W. Kerr paid Constable Mayhe	5. 00.
4. John W. Kerr, Office Rent.	5. 00.
5. John W. Kerr - Telegrams &c. -	1. 75
Total	\$ 110 25

Hon. Ministers  
 &c. &c. &c.  
 Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
 John W. Kerr  
 Quebec.

+ Friday. 18. April 1873.

On B. beach, and around by the Plains and the Heights, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 6.30. p.m. miles about 30. - \$49 Buggy 2.50 toll & of dinner for self and son 75. - -

Saturday 19. April 1873. -

at Hamilton Market - Tom Jones paid \$3. Hat. Jones 2. Mortimer boy 2. - Wm. Lottidge \$2. -



X Monday, 21. April 1873. -

at London - St. Thomas, Sparta, and Port Bruce, found that Jacob Bardan, Ferdinand Kontz and Levi Young, and their respective gangs had been fishing and catching pickled, found the fish and seized them went out at 8. a.m. came in at 9. p.m. - Miles 115<sup>#</sup> dinner 65<sup>+</sup>, tea and bed 25<sup>+</sup> each stage fare 1.50. - Ry fare 4.55<sup>#</sup> 6.95

X Tuesday, 22. April 1873.

at Port Bruce, had Jacob Bardan, Ferdinand Kontz, Levi Young, John Van-Block, David Whicklan, Doran Macdonald, George Young, Levi Millard, Junius Hoover, Charles Young, George Burney, and Eda Burrows, also W. J. Adams, and his two small boys. I fined the men one dollar each and the two boys 25<sup>+</sup> each - and I expounded to them the law they had broken in fishing for and catching pickled during close season remained at Port Bruce all day. -

Board and Bed \$1.00<sup>+</sup>. -

X Wednesday, 23. April 1873. -

at St. Bruce, Port Royal, Port Rowan and St. Williams, Miles 37. St. Buggies 4.00<sup>+</sup>, breakfast, dinner tea and bed 1.50. -

X Thursday 24. April 1873. -

at St. Williams, Turkey Point, and Semice, Port hire \$2.50<sup>+</sup>, breakfast, dinner tea and bed 1.00. - 44 B. 2.50<sup>+</sup>, Peter Price Board 75<sup>+</sup>. - went out at 8. a.m. came in at 10<sup>+</sup> p.m. Miles about 36. -

X Friday 25. April 1873. -

at Simco, Brantford and Hamilton, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 6. p.m. miles about 60. Stage fare 1.25<sup>#</sup>, Ry fare 95<sup>+</sup>, Board 75<sup>+</sup>. - 44 B. 1.00<sup>+</sup>

Sir,

26. April 1873.

I have the honor to report for your information, that on Monday evening last, the 21<sup>st</sup> instant, at Port Bruce township of Malahide, and County of Regi-  
on. I found a quantity of Pickeral recently caught  
in the possession of Jacob Berdau, Berdau and Kontze  
and Levi Young. - It being at the time close seas  
sore for pickeral. -

I seized the Pickeral, tried all the persons  
engaged in catching them, and I fined each per-  
son one dollar, without costs or ten days in jail  
in default of payment. - The pickeral I confiscated  
and sold for three dollars. - - -

The following names are those of the of-  
fenders, whom I fined one dollar each. - - -

1. Jacob Berdau.
2. Berdau and Kontze.
3. Levi Young. -
4. John Van. Black. -
5. David Whicklan. -
6. Lorau MacDonald. -
7. George Young. -
8. Levi Millard. -
9. Lurie Hoover. -
10. Charles Young. -
11. George Burney. -
12. Edw Burrows. -

Having in their possession a  
quantity of Pickeral in Contra-  
vention of the Fishing Act. -

Fishing for, catching and kil-  
ing pickeral in Contravention  
of the Fishing Act. - - -

Hon: The Minister  
&c. &c. &c.

Ottawa,

I Have &c,  
John W Kerr  
o.

Sent in Repts  
to this date \$310.  
26 Apr 73.

Sir

26. April 1873.

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque No: 207, for the sum of One Hundred and ten dollars, which you will be pleased to apply as follows; for this current year.

1. Wm Snook, Licensed at Turkey point, --	35.00
2. Frank Jackson, do. --	12.00
3. Richard Johnson, Licensed at St Williams, --	10.00
4. James Harris, do. at Turkey point. --	10.00
5. Edward Beaupre, Licensed at Long point.	3.00
6. Ferdinand Koutze, Licensed at Port Bruce, --	5.00
7. Wm G. Adams, -- do --	5.00
8. Charles Young, -- do. --	1.00
9. Jonathan Nichols, do. --	1.00
10. Wm Lottidge, Licensed in Burlington Bay. --	2.00
11. Thomas Jones, do, --	3.00
12. John Bates, do, --	3.00
13. Matimes Carey, do, --	2.00
14. Alex. Rolla, do, --	2.00
15. Nathaniel Jones, do, --	2.00
16. Wm Bruce Depew, do. for 1872. and 3. --	5.00
"Add" one moiety of 12, fines imposed as per my report herewith; see sub section 5. of section 16. of the Fisheries Act. --	6.00
"Add" for sale of Confiscated fish - see sub section 4. of section 16. of the Fisheries Act. --	3.00
Total.	110.00

Hon: Minister  
 &c. &c. &c.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
 John W. Steer.



Sir,

22. April 1873.

I have the honor to report for your information that on Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup> instant, I made an examination of the Oil Refinery's Inlet, on Burlington Bay, and around the shore of the Bay, for a distance of 2 miles. The result, several dead fish, and two black hals lying belly and side up in the last death struggle.

I took these (two, hals) home, had them properly cleaned, and then fried and cooked in a pan, and they were so much impregnated with Coal Oil, and Coal oil tar, from the Oil Refinery's as to be unfit for food. - They were in consequence thrown to my ducks. - Pike hals, and even herring, caught in B. bay this season are so much and so strongly impregnated with Coal oil, as to leave the fish unfit for food.

Barson and Brothel, who reside in Toronto own the Refinery, I found working, when I visited the place on the day referred to.

As there is every likelihood of a big fight and legal talent being employed against the fishery department, where I bring up this case to be adjudicated upon. - May I employ a counsel in my behalf to watch the proceedings.

I Have &amp;c

John W. Kerr  
O.Hon: Minister  
He. He. He.  
Ottawa.

X Monday 28. April 1873. -

at St. Catherine's, and Niagara, to issue licenses for fishing. Found all regular, but no money.

went out at 8. a. m. came in at 2. p. m. paid Myles of Jordan \$4. I owed him - By fare 1.10, dinner, tea and bed 75. Stage fare 75 miles about 48. - - -

X Tuesday 29 April 1873. -

at Niagara and Four mile Creek issuing license, found 50 pickrel in James Conrue's possession, caught by him John Steinhart, Tom Ormally, and Pat. Libbons, whom I fined 1 dollar each, or in default of payment eight days in Jail - The pickrel I confiscated. to be sold for 50. From thence to St. Catherine's and Port Dalhousie took information of Jonathan Woodruff and Reuben Monison of Peter Bath, for trespassing on Joseph Woodruff's fishery, and for catching pickrel during close season. - thence back again to St. Catherine's. Miles 28. Stage 50, \$4 & 25: 2, board and bed 2. -

X Wednesday, 30 April 1873. -

at St. Catherine's, consulted with Joseph Woodruff Esq, regarding Peter Bath, complained of by him and all Myles in the first place - Mr. Woodruff paid me (20) dollars rent of his fishery. - We came to the conclusion to enforce the law to its utmost against Peter Bath, thence to Port Dalhousie, and had Constable J. P. Johnston seize Bath's seine, for contravention of the Fishing Act, and Regulation, breakfast and dinner \$1. \$4 & light Wagon \$2.50, Constable fare 3.50. - By fare 1.10. - Cab hire 1.50. - Miles 48. Received ten dollars from Billy Lang, on acct of license.

...  
 3. May 1873. -

I have the honor to send you cheque No: 1. for the sum of thirty six dollars. ---

This amount you will please apply as follows; for this current year (1873.)

1. Joseph Woodruffe, Rep<sup>y</sup> of St. Catharines, the License of the 12, 15, and 16 Mile Creeks and ponds, and the Welland Canal up to Lock No: 2, see the Copy of the License herewith. --- \$ 20.00

2. William Lang, licensed to fish at Port Union &c. &c, in Lake Ontario, on a Copy of License herewith. 10.00.

3. M<sup>rs</sup> Ann, Foster & Son; License to fish in Lake Erie, west of the New Cut, will send license in a few days. --- 6.00

Total, \$ 36.00

You will also please find Copies of Licenses issued to M<sup>rs</sup> Richard Johnston, James Harris, and Edward Beaupre. - I sent their money to you on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of April last, Mon: Minster  
 &c. &c. &c. I have &c.  
 Ottawa.  
 John W. Kerr

+ Sunday, 27. April 1873.

On B. bay, caught a small boy fishing, whose grandfathers abused me - thence out on the Bay, as far the Heights nothing else wrong, went out at 8<sup>th</sup> a. m. Came in at 5 p. m. Wed, 24. St & B. and boat, Two Rowers



X Thursday, 1. of May at Wynona, to see  
 Paddy Stand - gave him his license to fish for the year,  
 no money, - went out at 8. a. m. came in at  
 6.30. p. m. miles about 40. ~~St & B.~~ 1.50. Ry fare 90,  
 dinner 30<sup>¢</sup>. -

X Monday 5. May 1873.  
 at B. beach. Ben Joyce paid me 10<sup>¢</sup> his license  
 for the year 1873. went out at 8. a. m.  
 came in at 6. p. m. - miles about 26. ~~St & B.~~  
 2.50 Roady had. -

X Thursday 8. May 1873.  
 On this day in the Police Court before me  
 Fred B. Mahoney and Thomas Edwin Stan-  
 wood were fined 10<sup>¢</sup> each - see my report  
 went out at 8. a. m. came in at 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> p. m.  
 miles 6. ~~St & B.~~ 1.50. -

X Wednesday 7. May 1873.  
 at Harveys Point to marry his son, young  
 Pollock, and Stanwood to appear before  
 me, went out at 9. a. m. came in at  
 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> p. m. miles 14. ~~St & B.~~ 2.00. -

X Saturday 10. May 1873. -  
 at B. beach. to enquire about Dan McGoyne  
 John Corey, Sam Corey and Frank Kane  
 fishing on the point in front of John  
 Hynes on Wednesday night last, where  
 he was seen about 9. p. m. by David  
 Armstrong, went out at 2. p. m. came  
 in at 6. p. m. miles 30. ~~St & B.~~ 2.50<sup>¢</sup>  
 toll 13<sup>¢</sup>

Sir,

12. May 1873.

By Circular addressed to me and dated the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May instant, I have to submit the names and license fee of the licensed fishermen in my district to the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Minister of Marine and Fisheries at Ottawa, (if not objectionable) be re a license will in future issue to them for this current year.

The permission granted to you by me to haul on your seine hauling ground in B. bay on the B<sup>ch</sup> and the privilege to fish pike gill nets within certain ranges in B. bay having expired on the 10<sup>th</sup> instant, and you, your wife and crew disregarding the Fisheries Act, its rules and regulations on several occasions this season (and last season) since fishing has commenced. - I now forbid you, and warn you and all to cease fishing and to fish no more from this date (12 May 1873) until the sanction of the Minister by license is first had and obtained by you. -

Daniel McFoyne,  
Fisherman

B. Beach. -  
Sattler.

By Order  
John W. Kent.  
Deputy.

Sir,

9 May 1873,

I have the honor to report for your information that on yesterday the 8<sup>th</sup> instant, before me in this City, Messrs<sup>rs</sup> Frederick B. Harvey of Barton and Horace Edwin Greenwood of this City, stood charged that they on Sunday, the 27<sup>th</sup> of April last in B. bay, Township of Barton, and County of Wentworth (East of Harveys point) did disturb and injure the Fisheries of John Bates, situated in the said Bay, and did overhaul and take from the said John Bates pike gill nets which they fished up six pike in contravention of the Fisheries Act. - - -

The defendants admitted the offence for which I fined them 10 each without costs or in default of payment 20 days in Jail. - - -

They put forward in palliation of the offence that they were merely rowing about in the bay in front of the property of Mr James Harvey, when accidentally they saw the 1<sup>st</sup> the net, and observing pike struggle therein thought they would take a net. -

In addition to the fine I gave them a bit of my mind on the subject, and as I now feel satisfied that a similar occurrence will not again happen on their part, I respectfully recommend that their fines be allowed by you to remain in abeyance as a guarantee for future good behaviour. - They are respectable young men. Greenwood's father is a leading Doctor here, and young Harvey is son of an ex-Clerk of Barton, and both are nephews of the worthy R. M. of this City James Cahill Esq<sup>r</sup> 3<sup>d</sup>.  
I have &c

Hon Minister,

John W. Kent



+ Monday, 12. May 1873. -

at Paris, Simcoe and Turkey Point, to try Bill Snook and his crew for a contravention of the Fisheries Act, went out at 8. a. m. came in at 9. p. m. miles about 65, H & B: 1.50<sup>4</sup>, Ry fare \$ 1.00 Stage 1.50<sup>4</sup> dinner 25<sup>4</sup>, H & B. from Simcoe to Turkey Point \$ 2.00 tea and bed 50<sup>4</sup>. -

+ Tuesday 13. May 1873. -

at Turkey Point and Simcoe, tried Wm Snook August Schomaker, Bill Smith, Elias Smith and David Bouke for catching pickered in close season, went out at 8. a. m. came in at 7.40. p. m. miles about 20. H & B: 2.50, breakfast dinner tea and bed 1.25<sup>4</sup>. -

+ Wednesday 14. May 1873.

at Simcoe, Bradford and home, went out at 8. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. miles about 60. Stage fare 1.75<sup>4</sup>, Ry fare \$ 1, B. d. and tea 75, extras 75<sup>4</sup>. -

Sir,

15. May 1873.

I have the honor to report for your information, that on Tuesday last at Turkey Point, town-  
ship of Charlottetown, and County of Norfolk, I tried  
the following fishermen residents there, for fishing for,  
catching and killing pickled at Turkey Point, in  
Lake Ontario, during close season to wit: between  
the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April last, and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of  
May instant, in contravention of the Fisheries Act.

They pleaded guilty and threw themselves on the  
Clemency of the Court, I disposed of them as fol-  
lows: —

1. Wm. Snook, fined \$10, and \$2. dollars, Constable fee  
or in default of payment one month in Jail.
2. August Schowmaker, fined \$5, and one dol-  
lar, Constable fee, or 20 days in Jail.
3. Wm. Smith, Eliza Smith, and David Bonke,  
(the hands,) fined one dollar each, without  
cost or eight each in Jail.

The fines and costs were paid and I  
send you half of the fine (nine dollars)  
the Magistrate's share of the fines.

I have &c.

John W. Kerr

Hon. Minister  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa,

Sir,

15. May 1873,

I have the honor to send you Bank  
cheque No. 23, for the sum of Thirty four dollars  
and fifty Cents. - - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
as follows: for this Current year - "1873."

1. James Brackett's Seine hauling License, at Turkey  
point, in Lake Erie, same as last year. - \$10.00.
  2. Charles and Alpha Garris' Seine hauling License  
at Turkey point, Lake Erie for Current year, " 5.00.  
~~at the west end of Long point in Lake Erie,~~  
~~for Current year,~~
  3. - Isaac Dick & Son, Seine hauling License  
at the west end of Long point, in Lake  
Erie. - " 5.00
  4. Solomon Becker, Seine hauling License  
in Lake Erie at Port Rowan - 2.50,
  5. James Bircholt, Seine hauling License, in  
Lake Erie at Port Rowan, or after  
ten dollars being full License fee. - 2.00,
  6. Walter Bantam, License to fish a gill  
Net 100 yard long in Lake Erie, at  
Port Rowan. - 1.00,
- "Add fines". - William Snook, \$5.00,  
" August Showmaches, 2.50,  
" Eliza Smith, .50,  
" W. Smith, .50,  
" Ed Bouke. - 50, 9.00  
Total, \$34.50

Yours Minister,  
He . . . He . . . He . . .  
O'Mara

I Have &c  
John W. Kerr  
o,



Sib

15. May 1873.

In obedience to your beiclos dated the 1<sup>st</sup> of May instant, I now send you five copies of licenses for this current year. —

Will you be pleased to send me back the original immediately, as I have no objection to raise against your issuing the same. —

Mr James Brockett's license you will please make out the same as last year, and send to me with the others. —

Hon: Minister

I have &amp;c

H. V. F.

John M. Kerr

Hawa.

A.

Friday 15. May 1873.

X at S: Bridge, and Whippawa, as far as Haver Island — Saw Thomas and William Parker, Philip Shafer, Elijah Vauseeler Day, and Julius Page, no fishing there this season yet, went out at 8. a. m. came in at 7. p. m. Miles about 108.  
 Rig fare <sup>#</sup> 3.00, Horse & D. <sup>#</sup> 2.00, dinner <sup>#</sup> 50, Boat hire <sup>#</sup> 2.00, Tolls <sup>#</sup> 40, H&D. fare depot and home <sup>#</sup> 3.00, — 1.50

X Saturday, 17. May 1873. —

at bout, Mr James Cahill. P. M. and Self joined John Green, John Baker, W<sup>m</sup> Campbell, and James Green <sup>#</sup> 30 each, and <sup>#</sup> 3.30 Constable fees each, or two months in jail, See my report went out at 8. a. m. came in at 3. p. m. Miles 8, H&D Pay 1.50, for allowing saw deck into the 12 mile Creek, township of Johnson. —

Sir,

19. May 1873.

- Will you be pleased to find herewith Bank cheque No: 27, for the sum of \$52 dollars which you will be pleased to apply as Licenses fees for this current year as follows;
1. Mr. Dan McFoyne, License to fish on seine hauling ground No: 11, in Lake Ontario, on Burlington beach, and on seine hauling ground No: 4, in B. bay, on B. Beach, beside Cisco, herring, and pike gill net fishing during the year 1873. — \$17.00
  2. Mr. Benjamin Goulds, License to fish on seine hauling ground No: 5, in Lake Ontario, on B. beach, beside Cisco, and herring gill net fishing, during the year 1873. \$15.00
  3. Mr. David Hitch, License to fish on seine hauling ground No: 3, in Lake Ontario, on B. beach, also on seine hauling ground No: 6, in B. bay, and Herring, pike and Cisco gill nets, during the year 1873. — \$15.00
  4. Mr. Thomas Joyce, Licensed for herring gill net fishing in Lake Ontario, between lot No: 22, North of the B. Canal and the Harbour at Wellington Square, during the year 1873. — on a lot. \$5.00
- Total \$ 52.00

Hon. Minister

Sir

Sir

Sir

Ottawa,

I Have the

John W. Kerr

o.

Sir,

19. May 1873.

I have the honor to apply to you for leave to set off a Seine hauling ground on Turkey point, township of Charlottesville, and County of Abbeville. -- I intend this Seine ground for James Le-Rose, recently a keeper on Long point, Lake Erie; he also requires permission to build a house in front of the fishery when your sanction is obtained to do so. --

At present the beach of Turkey point, on Lake Erie, is occupied under license from Abbeville mandale to Deep hole point, a distance of about four miles. -- But I can make a place between Smoak's, Abbeville's fishery, and Charles and Mr Alpha Harris, fishery. Smoak having 1000 yards frontage, and the Harris frontage being considerably over that, although not all Seine hauling ground.

Your sanction in this matter is respectfully requested,

Yours Minister,  
H. V. H.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
John W. Kerr  
a.



Sir,

19. May 1873.

I have the honor to report for your information, that on this day the 19<sup>th</sup> instant, before James Cahill Esq<sup>r</sup> J. P., and myself Mess<sup>rs</sup> John Green, John Baker, William Campbell, and James Green of the Township of Helson, were charged under Sub Section two of Section 14, of the Fisheries Act, for allowing saw dust, and mill rubbish to be drifted and thrown into the Twelve mile Creek, a stream frequented by Speckled Trout, and other fish named in the Act, besides being a stream not exempt by the Minister from the operation of Sub Section No: 2, of Section 14. --

They were each fined off 30, and \$3.30 of each Constables fees, or in default of payment to be imprisoned two months in Jail. --

They paid the Costs, but the fine I allowed to remain in abeyance with your permission. -- Provided they will in future keep the saw dust out of the stream. -- This decision is altogether subject to your decision and adjudication thereon via Sub Section 6, of Section 16, of the Fisheries Act. --

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister,  
He. He. He.  
O Mauna.

I Have &c  
John W. Kerr  
O.

Sir,

19. May 1873.

I have the honor to apply to you, and I beg most respectfully to recommend that you will be pleased to allow seine hauling this year for white fish in Lake Ontario, at Niagara, Burlington beach, Toronto, and Frenchman's bay between the 30<sup>th</sup> of May, and the 1<sup>st</sup> of August next, please refer to Section 9. of the Act.

Seine hauling for white fish at Niagara commenced later than this year than usual and so far is not remunerative. - Seine hauling for white fish, has not yet commenced on Os. beach, and does not commence at Toronto, before the 24<sup>th</sup> of May; Hence my annual reason for making this application to you.

In consequence of Dan McJuryne fishing for catching and killing white fish, last season viz<sup>d</sup> on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July last year, with his Herring Seine, which I had confiscated, and seized by a Constable, under Sub Section 2. of Section 11. of the Fisheries Act. - - What I propose to do now, on Os. Beach this year, is allow no set hauls nor seine hauls for Herring to be made in Lake Ontario at Os. Beach until after the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August next, on any of the white fish seine hauling grounds there, and for which I respectfully crave your sanction and approval.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Ministers, -  
 H. H. H.  
 Ottawa.

I Have &c  
 John W. Kerr  
 O.

Monday 19, May 1873. -

At Hamilton to get a cheque from the Bank, for \$52. ~~allow~~, went out at 8½ a. m. came in at 5 p. m. Miles 8. - -

+ Tuesday 20. May 1873.

At Hamilton, thence to Dundas to inspect the Oil Refineries there, and the paper mill, went through the mill found every thing apparently right so far as the Oil Refineries were concerned neither of them were working, the one down town, has no connection with the Dundas stream, and the Refinery above the Town has not been in operation for some time went out at 1½ o'clock p. m. came in at 6 p. m. miles about 18. -  
 J. & Maggou. <sup>#</sup> 2.50

+ Wednesday 21, May 1873. - - -

At Hamilton, thence to Mountain to get Survey made; back again and proceeded to inspect the Oil Refinery of Charles Williams and Parsons Brothers, situated on Sherman's Inlet, found the Oil & Vitriol running into the Inlet in more than half a dozen different places without let or hindrance. Saw the man at Williams place, who told McKel and myself, that there were fish in the Inlet, before Parsons commenced to work but none since, saw the Acid running from Parsons Agitator, and the smell was overpowering, black stuff was flowing down a small water course or pipe coming out of Williams place, - Saw the foreman of, Parsons and Co., who gave me the name of the Superintendent, Mr. A. L. Whyte, had a long conversation with the Foreman, who is a very civil obliging man, went out at 3 p. m.



came in at 7. p. m. Miles 9. 144 B. <sup>4</sup>/<sub>4</sub> -2.50

X Thursday 22, May 1873.

at Hamilton, at the Bay, near the Depot, thence to Simon Peter Styfes, William Jages, Andrew Jages, and William Lottidge, to request their attendance at the Police Court on Friday morning. — Jack Saalfe, Abraham W. Taylor, and John E. Lottidge will give evidence about the Coal Oil &c. when called upon, went as far as Burlington Beach, went out at 9, a. m., came in at 7. p. m. Miles 28. 144 B. dinner for self and son. — Horse feed. — <sup>4</sup>/<sub>4</sub> 3.00

Postage 48 <sup>4</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, Telegrams 50.

22<sup>nd</sup> May — got some Herring from Alexander Rolan, when cooked the tasted and smelled of Coal Oil — and I could not eat them, He told me he had caught them in B. bay that morning. — —

X Sunday 25, May 1873. —

at the small inlet near the old Land place, thence across to Mr Webster to Lottidge inlet, thence as far as Depewes and Aggs inlet, found three boys fishing went out at 7, a. m., came in at 3. p. m. Miles about 16. 144 Wagon, <sup>4</sup>/<sub>4</sub> 2.50 Mr Sam<sup>l</sup> McHair, was with me also my son Fred<sup>l</sup>, Mr Webster complained about the fish tasting of Coal Oil, also of the injury done to the legs of the cows, when they walk into the water of the bay, where the oil is, took down the names of the boys Edward McMinamy, son of a painter, west avenue Hamilton, Robert Johnston, son of Rob<sup>r</sup> Johnston west avenue, Hamilton. — 144 W

+ Tuesday 27. May 1873. -  
at St. Catharines, and Niagara. to look after the  
fisheries, went out at 8. a. m. came in at 2. p. m.  
miles about 48. Ry fare <sup>#</sup> 1.30, stage <sup>#</sup> 50, dinner tea  
and bed <sup>#</sup> 75. - John Stand, paid me \$5 fee for  
1872. -

+ Wednesday. 28. May 1873. - -  
James Cantwell paid \$10. License fee for current  
year, Abner Gobb paid 10. License fee for current year  
for seine hauling ground. - and John Bolton paid  
\$15. for seine hauling ground, and Gill net license  
Joseph Culp paid \$1.50. for small gill net  
license at Clinton, went out at 4. a. m. came  
in at 11. a. m. miles about 8. walking. - The  
fishing of John Bolton is good. - Elliott and  
Thomas Mair middling - Big Jim, as usual  
discontented. - Board \$4. -

+ Thursday 29. May 1873. - -  
Thomas Elliott paid me his rent \$10. dollars  
he also paid me \$1. for shears and \$1.50.  
a fine of one dollar, and fifty cents, for  
fifty pickers sold by my direction, which  
I confiscated. - By Railway to the S. Bridge, -  
thence to Hamilton Ry fare \$3.00 + 84 W. 1.50.  
Breakfast and dinner \$1.00 +. - miles 60. -  
Martin Monifon applied for a new fishing.  
Big Jim, wants to give up fishing - Gobb  
too large to fish except two Culp - Jim's  
crew dissatisfied, grumbling, have given  
up fishing. - - -

Sir,

30. May 1873.

I have the honor to send you herewith cheque \$63.43, for the sum of sixty three dollars. - Will you be pleased to apply the same as follows; for the current year &c. -

1. Mr John Bolton, a seine hauling license, at the Two mile Creek, in Lake Ontario, Township of Niagara, for this current year. - \$10.00.
2. John and Charles Bolton, Boat License in Lake Ontario, for current year. - 5.00.
3. Mr Thomas Elliott, seine hauling license, in the Niagara River, and Lake Ontario, at Niagara, for this current year. - 10.00.
4. Mr John Stand, Boat License in Lake Ontario, for the year 1872, same as is represented in License for this current year, "not yet paid". - 5.00.
5. James Cantwell, seine hauling License, for the current year, at the four mile pond, township of Niagara, in Lake Ontario, same as last year. - 10.00.
6. Abraham Fobb & Co, seine hauling License at the four mile pond, in Lake Ontario township of Niagara. - please refer to a lease already in your office. - 10.00.
7. Joseph Culp, Boat License in Port of St John's, Conception, township of Clinton, Lake Ontario, a new License applied for. - 1.50.
8. James Cantwell, fined one dollar for having picked in his pots at Niagara on the 29. of April last in Contravention of the Fisheries Act, 1/2 of the fine herewith, - 50.
9. Patrick Gibbons do. do. - 50.



By amount received for the Pickens  
 Seized, Confiscated, and sold . . . . . -50¢

10. Mr James Le-Rose, License to fish a seine  
 in Lake Erie, at Turkey point - township of  
 Charlottesville, - please refer to my applica-  
 tion made to you the 9<sup>th</sup> May instant, 10.00  
Total \$ 63.00

Minister,  
 He. He.  
 Ottawa.

I Have &c  
 John W Kerr  
 Oversee.

Sir,

30. May 1873.

I have the honor to apply to you in  
 behalf of Mr Joseph Culp of the township of  
 of Clinton, in the County of Lincoln for a License  
 to fish 300 yards of white fish gill net in Lake  
 Ontario, in front of lot No: 9, in the first Con-  
 ception of Clinton, containing a lake frontage of  
 about twenty chains, for the current year,  
 Copy of the New License required is here-  
 with. . .

Hon: Minister  
 He. He. He.  
 Ottawa.

I Have &c  
 John W Kerr  
 Oversee

50 ¢ 50 ¢  
 1.50

Postages  
 Telegrams

\* Friday, 30. May 1873. -

Attended the Police Court in City of Hamilton, -  
 Mr White Superintendent of the Carbon Oil Works  
 was summoned up for allowing Coal oil and  
 Chemicals into Sherrens Inlet, a portion of Bur-  
 ington bay, waters frequented by fish named in  
 the Fisheries Act. - At Mr White's request and  
 with the sanction of Mr Larjick, and the Magis-  
 trate with my concurrence the case was put  
 off for three weeks because Mr White stated he  
 was getting tanks down from London to use in  
 stopping everything injurious from entering the wa-  
 ter, and thereby for all time to come prevent a like  
 occurrence happening, went out at 8. a.m.,  
 came in at 4. p.m. Miles 8. - N.V.D. 2.50

\* Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> May 1873. -

At B. beach, to notify the fishermen, that they  
 cannot be in haul for white fish between the  
 30. May, and the 1<sup>st</sup> of August, read for  
 some of them <sup>the</sup> reply to my application for  
 permission to fish during the prohibited time, went  
 out at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  p.m. came in 12, Miles 24, N.V.D. <sup>2.50</sup>  
 remained at the beach watching if any speak-  
 ing lights were on the bay so that I might be  
 in the matter, but none made their appearance

\* Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> June 1873. -

Out to try and catch persons fishing, saw  
 four men coming through a field from the  
 land gate, having fish and fishing rod and  
 hook and line in their pockets met three of  
 the men on the R. Road within the City  
 limits one of them had Cat fish, recently  
 caught, another had a fishing pole and a  
 third had a line hook and a cork in his

hand. endeavored to get their names it was no use. - - One man was drunk, and very abusive. - McNair, a County Constable was with me. took the Catfish from them, went to James St. station near the Railway and Mr. Haid got Mr. McMinamee to after the three men whom they saw, but did not succeed in taking nor finding out their names. - - -

found Michael Fayau of No. 130, Rebecca St, on Barton St, near Forbes Ashby, he had a cloth filled with Cat fish said he had been fishing, and caught some of the fish. - got the rest from person he did not know, went on to Page, & spars, and Gags inlet, did not see any one else altho several persons were fishing within the city limits, went out at 12. Noon, came in at 6 1/2 P. M. Mile 12, 547 <sup>\$1.50</sup> <sub>2.50</sub> - Charles John my son was also with me. - - -

"Private", - Monday 2. June 1873. -

Paid in <sup>\$</sup>150 to R. L. Bank, D. B. Chisholm kindly lent me <sup>\$</sup>100 to enable me to do so. - - -

+ "Tuesday, 3. June 1873. -

at Navy Island, to inspect the fishing there. - went out 1.30, A. M. got back at 1.30, A. M. on the 4<sup>th</sup> June, Mile 124. - Pay 3.00, Boat 50¢ breakfast 50¢, dinner 30¢, tea 25¢, - application made for a license in the name of Wm. Haskin - the Proprietor of the Island. - who will get Wm. Parker and Felix Shaffer to fish for him. -



Wednesday, the 4. June 1873.

At the Police Court, gave my evidence against ~~the~~ Isaac Atkinson, for allowing filth to go from the slaughter house into Sharnau's inlet a portion of B. bay, ~~the~~ Whyte, and John McKnight were examined when the case was adjourned for a fortnight to get further evidence.

After it had been raining for some time this afternoon, went to the Pork Factory again although I was there in the morning previously. found that the rain had cleaned off the surface of the ground so that the white lime stuff and salt had been washed away - went around the premises outside, and saw a great deal of filth such as offal, and cut blood etc. - still a great deal has been done to prevent contagion and bad smell, a stream of pickled ice water is continually running from a wooden pipe into and among the blood and cut, deposited in the inlet. - Constable J. J. Fenton who

kindly accompanied me took observations, Mr Atkinson, and his foreman came out of the building, showed us over the outside premises explained everything to me, and pointed out the Carboys of Vitriol they had used, and was on the whole very civil, obliging and accommodating. - Mr Atkinson also showed me all through the premises where I observed the Pork going through different processes of curing - even up to the packing, and seasoning white loaf sugar when put into boxes. -

I also observed that the building has been strewed with ice therein for to protect the Pork, and a large number of men were engaged all through the building above and below attending to their business which is of an

multifarious nature, went out in the morning at 8. a.m. came in at 4½ p.m. <sup>shells</sup> altogether about 16. H & Buggy. — dinner 4c. 50. <sup>4</sup> 2.00

+ Thursday, 5. June 1873. —

at Burlington beach, saw Mr H<sup>d</sup> Fitch, Jack Laafe, and Mr Rodkie, John Dyne, Fred<sup>4</sup> Corey and Dan<sup>4</sup> McJoryne, Mr McJoryne, Mr Baldry, David Wells and Mr Wells, Mr Corey and Jack. —

Benjamin Loe and Thomas Loe, gave Thomas his license for fishing west of the canal, the ground heretofore occupied by Dan, McJoryne, thence home by the Heights and Plains, remonstrated with the fishermen, and warned them not to break the law by seining for white-fish, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 3. p.m. Miles 26. — H & B <sup>4</sup> 2.50  
dinner 50<sup>4</sup> for two. —

Notice - To the fishermen of B<sup>m</sup> Beach.

By Section 110:9. of the Fisheries Act. white fish cannot be caught by means of any kind of seine, between the 30<sup>th</sup> of May, and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August in each year, in any of the waters in the P. of Ontario. So that you will please have to govern yourselves accordingly.

Hamilton, Ont.  
30. May 1873.

By order  
John W. Brown  
Officer of Fisheries

The foreman in the Port Establishment said when the wind blows from the bay into the inlet he could fill ten barrels of oil in front of the Port Establishment - floating in the Inlet.

On my visit to the Port factory in the morning and evening of the 4<sup>th</sup>, the local oil was floating as usual in the Inlet. -

X Saturday, 7. June 1873. -

At the Police Court, had three persons fined for fishing on Sunday: 1<sup>st</sup> of June and 25<sup>th</sup> of May, 2 dollars each and costs. went out at 8. a.m. Court over at 11. a.m. Miles 8. H & B: 1.50.

On Saturday off to Toronto, and the Island to get my Rents, went out at 2. p.m. came in at 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>. p.m. Miles 48. Railway 1.30<sup>4</sup>, dinner tea, and bed off 1. Boat 25<sup>4</sup> & H & B 1.50. -

X Sunday 8. June 1873. -

On the Island, saw David Ward, George Hurman and John Ward, preparation for the new filtering basin and water works are going on. - - - George was so religious he would not speak of business. went out at 8. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. boat and walking, Miles 6. Board and boat 1.50<sup>4</sup>, - Received License fee's see my report to the Minister. - - -

X Monday 9. June 1873. -

At Toronto, and home, saw Grafton at the Port Credit Station, - Wilnot was not there, went out at 11.40. a.m. came in at 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> p.m. Miles 48. Ry 1.30. Breakfast and dinner \$ 1.00. H & B 1.50. See my report about the small fish dead and dying on Toronto Island. - - -



Victoria..

31. 5. 1873.

Hon. Peter Mitchell

and are catching no white fish season is at hand  
and are catching very few, can we fish on  
with small meshes - if not answered at once

The legal net we shall fish with. - If we  
have to fish with larger than six and  
half, we will have to hang up.

W. J. Whitcher.

Referred to J. W. Kerr Esq. for report to be  
returned with report. -

4 June 73

(Signed) W. J. Whitcher  
for M. of M. & F.

Sir

10. June 1873.

I have the honor to send you here =  
with cheque No. 58, for sixty dollars. - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as  
follows: viz

1. M<sup>rs</sup> David Ward, and Patrick Gray, for license  
at Toronto Island &c, Lake Ontario for this cur-  
rent year. - \$ 40.00
2. Mr Patrick Gray, license to fish in  
Ashbridges bay, Black House, and the  
Maskinonge, Toronto Island, for the cur-  
rent year. 10.00
3. Mr John Jussell Gray, license to fish  
in Ashbridges bay &c, for a portion of  
the current year on acct 10.00

Total, \$ 60.00

Hon. The Minister

H. H. H.

Omanca,

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
Omanca

up to this!  
496.50  
4960  
\$550.504

Sir,

10. June 1873.

I have the honor to report for your information that on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday last the 7, 8, and 9<sup>th</sup> days of June instant, when on the Island - Toronto, in Lake Ontario, I found thousands of small fish, whom some people call mother Herrings, others call them Shiners; but I have always myself known them ~~byself~~, by the name of Mooneyes; lying on the shore of that portion of Lake Ontario, lying between the Light House, and the point. -

The water and the shore was strewn over with the dead of these fish, for a distance of about one mile. - - -

The surface of the water for some distance outward from the shore was perceptibly alive with these fish, who kept jumping in and out of the water, not in sport, but as if from the effect of something that seemed ~~that seemed~~ to be leading them on to certain death. - It ended at in the fish at last floating dead on the surface of the water. - - -

The fish I have refer to, were about four inches long, rather more flat than round, with a bright shining colour, very sharp on the belly with a kind of saw like edge thereto, perhaps if I said these fish were of the size of Sardines, I would be stating what is really a fact.

Amongst the several thousands I found dead, I did not find a single fish of any other kind nor description beyond what I here <sup>have</sup> described to you as Mooneyes. or, <sup>as</sup> resembling this fish! -

So many dead and dying fish created wonder and astonishment amongst the hundreds of visitors from the City of Toronto, who frequent the Island daily for recreation.

Yours, Minister.

H. V. Mavor.

I have no doubt  
should know  
on

Tuesday, 10. June 1873. -

At the Police Court, had Charles Williams up about allowing Coal Oil in Sherbourne Lulst, a portion of B. Bay, thereby injuring and destroying the fish in the said bay. - after hearing several witnesses the case was adjourned to Tuesday 24 June 1873, went out at 8. am came in at 5. p. m. Miles 8, 149 Bdg <sup>4</sup>/<sub>1.50</sub>, dinner 5<sup>4</sup>,

Sir,

10. June 1873.

With reference to your instruction to prosecute the Oil Refinery who are allowing the Residue to pass from their establishment, to enter the waters of B. Bay, causing death and injury to the fish that frequent these waters. - I have now the honor to apply to you that permission be granted me to have some of the Residue stuff examined by a competent person, so that it may be ascertained and determined what chemical or deleterious matter is contained therein. - I have had the Proprietors of the Establishment up. - And the cases have been adjourned in each instance for this purpose as well as to give the Carbon Oil Co. the opportunity of putting up large tanks, so as to prevent the Oil in future going into the waters of the Bay. -

I Have &c.

Hon. Minister,  
&c. &c. &c.  
O Mawa,

John W. Kerr  
D,



X Friday, 13, June 1873. -

at Weynona, to see Paddy O'neil, thence by boat to David Gitches, M. beach, and home by Hamilton by fare, 45, Boat # 1, and Horse & Wagon 2.00, dinner 30, went out at 8, a.m. came in at 6, p.m. - Miles 34. -

X Monday, 16, June 1873. -

at Montford, Paris and Pellenheim to see the Smithy Creek, and dams. Met<sup>d</sup> William Bolton, and Richard W<sup>m</sup> Balf, went out at 3, a.m. came in at 10½ p.m. Miles 104, \$40 B, 3.00, Reg fare 1.30, dinner 30, see my report on the subject. -

Sir,

17, June 1873.

I have the honor to apply to you in behalf of Mr Isaac K. Taylor of Grimsby in the County of Lincoln to set apart a fishery in Lake Ontario, between the 30. and 40 mile creek which I shall do, on obtaining your sanction.

No person fishes there at present, nor within any portion of the limits Mr Taylor has now applied for. -

I recommend this application to your consideration for adoption; when your Circular of the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1873, will be complied with on my part. -

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr.  
Registrar.

Hon. Minister

&c. &c. &c.

Ottawa.

Sir,

17. June 1873. -

Mr Martin Monison of the town of Niagara, has applied to me for a new fishery, situated in Lake Ontario, between Kennedy's hollow, and the first mile Pond, situated in the township of Niagara. - - -

Monison's object is to get hold of this place, clear out the stone and rocks therefrom, where a most valuable fishery would be at once established there. - - -

He wants to know the terms on which the department will license or lease this place to him. - - - Debarred although I am, by Circular, dated 1<sup>st</sup> of May last, beyond that of merely sending you a copy of license of any new fishery that may be applied for. - I may here however say; that if Mr Monison was to obtain a lease or license of the fishery he has applied for, after he cleared the ground of all the obstacles to which I have already alluded, and which would likely cost him about \$200. This fishery would then be worth to the department an annual rent of about \$300 a year. -

Being situated on a point projecting far out in the waters of the Lake, it would, when fished, destroy and make all the other seine hauling fisheries there, on each side of it worthless. -

The bottom of Lake Ontario outside is smooth sand and gravel perfectly clear of rocks and stone. This matter is referred for your decision. - Monison is not at present a fisherman.

I Have &c,

Sur.

17. June 1873.

In obedience to your order, I have the honor to report that I have examined Smiths Creek which runs through the township of Blenheim &c. County of Oxford into the Grand River at Paris, in the County of Oshant. . . .

It is a pure clear spring creek, fed by several smaller spring rivulets flowing into it during its meandering serpentine route, principally through the township of Blenheim until at least after running about 60 miles it enters the  $\frac{1}{2}$  River at Paris. ---

The distance from the village of Washington, in the township of Olenheim, to Paris in a direct course is about 16 miles, while to follow the course of the River it is about 60 miles. --- It is a gravel bottom stream with continuous rapids and sharp & deep holes in abundance, all along <sup>its entire distance</sup>, and at one time it abounded in speckled trout, bafs, pike, and pickerel &c. &c. ---

Help<sup>ing</sup> Richard W<sup>illiam</sup> ~~W~~<sup>illiam</sup> ~~B~~<sup>aldwin</sup>, William Baldwin,  
and Daniel Wakefield &c, &c, &c, wealthy and  
Independent farmers and gentlemen, residents in  
the township of Palenheim, who take a lively in-  
terest in the preservation of all kinds of fish, and  
at whose instance the attention of the department  
has been drawn to this stream in this locality upon  
application to me in the first place, at the  
instance of the Hon: George Alexander, a Senator  
of the Dominion: - - - With a view of having  
slides and fish-ways placed in certain mill  
dams, thereby enabling people to get a me<sup>asure</sup> of  
fish occasionally, but in a legal way, as in  
duty of you<sup>re</sup> . . . . .  
Those people to whom I have been al-  
luding, and I agree with them, consider that



the following persons should by Notice given from the department be placed at once under the operation of Section 12 of the Fisheries act, and Sub Section 2, and 4, of the same, and as this is the proper season of the year (Summer) to commence work at the slides and complete the same, I delay not a moment apply to you at once, upon a subject of such importance. . . .

As regards the saw dust, I beg most respectfully to ask your permission to be allowed to keep out saw dust from the Smiths Creek, as I consider the operation of Sub Section 2, of Section 14, of the Fisheries act is absolutely necessary for the preservation of the fish in this Creek beside it is an adjunct of the feeder to Lake Erie, the Grand River where this Sub Section is already in operation.

With this object in view. - The following persons require to have the usual and regular printed notices served upon them forthwith. . . .

1. Mr. Goldie, a grist mill dam, over Smiths Creek in township of Blenheim. . . .
2. Messrs. Wolverton, and Curry, a grist and saw mill dam, over Smiths Creek, in township of Blenheim. . . .
3. - Mr. Thomas Gray, a grist mill dam. - do. . . .
4. - Daniel Schumacher, a small dam. - do. . . .
5. - Mill dam, at Mudge's hollow. - do. . . .
6. Messrs. Saw and Wilson, grist and saw mill dam, at Plattersville, in township of Blenheim. -
7. - Mr. Jacob Schumacher, a saw mill dam, - do. - placed across the Creek. . . .
8. - Mr. Pipes - a grist and saw mill dam across the Creek, township of Blenheim. -
9. - Messrs. Whitlaw and Dinnman two dams across the Creek at Ware's just before the water enters the York River. . . .

The same dust, and the killing off the speckled trout in close season, has diminished the numbers of the fish so considerably that the people of Belenheim, ask for, and demand the remedy now applied for in this matter and which I strongly recommend to your consideration for immediate adoption. . . .

If you have got a model for a fish way, please let me have one. . . If you have different models, please let me have one of each kind. —

Hon<sup>r</sup>. Minister.  
He. He. He.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
John W Kerr  
S.

X Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 1873. —

at B. beach, Schenck borey, David Fitch, Benjamin Foulds, Fred: H. borey, Wm Rodkins, John Laafe, Dave McPherson, and Sam Soid, My John Baldrey, being haul-  
ing. — Went out at 5. p. m. came in at 2. a. m. —  
H. & Wagon. Miles about 26. Expenses <sup>\$ 4</sup> 2.50. —

and again. —

X Wednesday 18. June 1873. —

at the Pork factory, made an examination of the premises thence to Thompsons boat house to see about my boat, went out at 6. a. m. came in at 11. a. m., Miles 10. H. & W<sup>g</sup> <sup>\$ 4</sup> 1.50, —

X Friday, 20. June 1873. —

attending Court, in case ag<sup>t</sup> the Pork factory for allowing spent acid, and lime into Sherburne Inlet, a portion of Burlington bay. — went first to the factory and examined the premises, went out 6. a. m. came in at 1. p. m. Miles 12.  
H. & W<sup>g</sup> <sup>\$ 4</sup> 2.00. —

let, >

11. June 1873.

With reference to the illegal conduct of Messrs. William Snook, and James Crockett, licensed fishermen at Turkey Point, Lake Erie, who are represented as being for white fish, fishing for, catching, and killing the same in contravention of the Fisheries Act. - please refer to Section 9. -

I herewith send you a letter I have just received from Mr. Peter Price the Guardian there. -

Old Price stand as a guarantee for future good behaviour, but such leniency has no terror for such delinquents. - - -

I shall patiently await your instruction as to how I shall act, independent of what your previous orders are, and as the Law lays down for my guidance. -

Pending an answer from the Department to Snook's Telegram, he appears to have acted very bad, and illegal. -

The Hon.

I Have &c.

Minister &c.

John W. Kent,

Ottawa.

+

Monday. 23. June 1873.

On B's beach, and around B's bay, getting witnesses, and serving summonses to appear in the Coal Oil case against Williams. For allowing the same into Sherman's Inlet, a portion of B's bay, went out at 5, a. m. came in at 10. p. m. - \$4.4 B's, 2.50, for a sample of the stuff, and gave it to Dr. Macintosh for analysing, came from W. J. Gage to James Pickersgill. Served and noticed about 25 witnesses. - - -

July 30.



X Tuesday 24. June 1873. -

at the Police Court, attending the trial against Charles Williams, went out at 8. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. miles 10. <sup>#</sup> 4 & B - 2.00. -

Colonel John Lamb, R. P. Street, John D. Mackenzie, John Baile, James Webster, James Pickersgill, James Harvey, James H. Harvey, Wm Lathridge, Charles Gage, Andrew Gage, Robert Loring, George Williams, Henry Rodkin, abm W. Taylor, Benjamin Goulds, and several others in attendance to be examined. - - gave John Barr # 2. for assisting Mr. Loring. - - -

X Wednesday 25. June 1873. -

at Jordan, St. Catharines, Suspension Bridge and the Towns of Queenston and Niagara, to enquire into a complaint lodged by Joseph Gabriel against John Wadsworth for putting a long cedar pole in front of his machine in the Niagara River at Queenston. - made a note of the offence here, for future adjudication. went out at 8. a. m. came in at 6. p. m. miles 60. By fare 1.75. <sup>#</sup> 4 & B. 1.50 dinner tea and bed 75. -

The following fishermen have paid me license fees as follows; John Baile 10. <sup>#</sup> Mrs Anne Sherbenelle 5, Wm Rodkin # 10. for year 1872, Melfs 3, Charles and Alfred Ball # 5, William Ingledew # 5, and James Cantwell # 5, to be sent away immediately.

X Thursday 26. June 1873.

at Niagara, St. Catharines and Hamilton, went out at 10. a. m. came in at 6. p. m. miles about 50. Stage 50, By fare 1.30, dinner, breakfast # 1.00. - -



Sir,

2<sup>d</sup> June 1873. -

I have the honor to receive your communication of the 29<sup>th</sup> of May, in reply to mine of the 19<sup>th</sup> of May, recommending that Seining for White fish be allowed at Niagara, B. beach, Toronto, and Frenchman's bay, from 1<sup>st</sup> of June to 1<sup>st</sup> of August; thus doing away with the White fish close season prescribed by the Fisheries Act. - I am to call your attention to former communications on the same subject dated 21<sup>st</sup> of May, and 1<sup>st</sup> of June 1872. - The same objections to such local changes which were therein pointed out to you still exist in full force and until you are able to answer them satisfactorily the Department considers it inadvisable to comply with similar requests. - - -

I have now the honor to refer you most respectfully to my letter to you of the 24 May 1872, in answer to yours of the 21<sup>st</sup> of May 1872. now referred to by you, on this White fish seine hauling subject. - - -

And with reference to your letter of the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 1872. - to which you now call my attention. - - I have the honor to refer you again to my reply thereto, dated the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 1872. -

I may here say to you candidly that until the 15. of May this year, no White fish were caught on the seine hauling grounds at Niagara.

Up to Thursday last, when I was at Niagara the take on two seine hauling grounds there was profitable: - on a third middling; while on a fourth ground Seining had been given up: so that you will now perceive that by the strict letter of the Fisheries Act, only fifteen days is the full limit allowed to catch White fish on the seine hauling grounds at Niagara this year. - The season as you will please observe, was very late the fish



were late in coming on the seine hauling grounds, while last year the run was all over there, on the 24 of May. . . . I refer to you those two incidents for contemplation, and consideration. Now with regard to the White fish Seining grounds on B. beach, provided you reconsider the matter in a beneficial and advantageous point of view for the fishermen, their wives, and families resident there: - I do really believe that White fish will not be on the seine hauling grounds there this season before the 15<sup>th</sup> of June. . . . Then according, as you will please observe by the present Fisheries Act. - the fishermen cannot catch any White there this season at all, because as <sup>all</sup> my former communications will have already shown you, that June and July are the months the W. fish come on the Seining grounds in the localities I have applied for permission to extend the time for seine hauling, and this I have done year after year which by this time I had hoped to convince you, how urgent the demands of the poorer fishermen have been from year to year and each year on this to them an important subject. . . .

I am merely here the mouth piece of the fishermen urging upon you in an humble and becoming manner their urgent requests, in this matter. . . . I have almost exhausted all my efforts in behalf of the poorer fishermen of those localities to which I have drawn respectfully your attention. . . .

It has been an Annual application on my part in their behalf, every season and the grounds upon which the application each year has been submitted to you, as

thought by me to be so clear, that I need not refer here at any more length to them beyond what I have already laid down in my former communication, and to which I now respectfully take the liberty to again refer you. . . .

I hope all my reasons will reach upon your mind forcibly and effectually the necessities of the Fishermen, that you will no longer hesitate to grant what I believe will be received by all concerned as a great and generous boon, granted to the deserving portion of our Seine hauling fishermen, as applied for in this instance. . . . I have no desire to do anything whatever in this case beyond what my duty is, standing as I do in my position as mediator between the department and the Fishermen. . . .

Hon: Minister

Hc. Hc. Hc.

Maurice

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr

o.

Monday, 30 June 1873.

at B. Beach, to enquire for other witnesses in the Coal Oil Refinery case, being at 8 telegraph poles from Mr. Woodhall for \$4. - enquiring about the fisheries. went out at 4, a. m. came in at 2. p. m. Mile 30. At B 3.00.

15  
1.10  
2.00  
3.00

Sir,

6, June 1873.

With reference to the enclosed telegram to you from Mr. W. Snook, a fisherman at Turkey Pt. now referred by you to me for report upon.

I have the honor to report for your information that I can see no reason why, Section 9, and Sub Section 3. of P. 9. of the Fisheries Act. shall be departed from in this instance, so as to be made in all respects adapted to suit the craving and selfish feelings of Mr. W. Snook, or even the other fishermen at Turkey point, Lake Erie. . . .

Last season, I have reason to know that through the inattention of the Guardian at St. Williams, Mr. Snook and the other fishermen resident licensees at Turkey point, Lake Erie, caught a large number of small wh. fish, on the same hauling grounds there between the 30<sup>th</sup> of May, and 1<sup>st</sup> of August. This was quite an unexpected thing, as whitefish for several years previously had not been known to come on the same hauling grounds in large quantities ever since my appointment up to the last year, such an occurrence had not happened. . . . I was therefore pained when the report was made to me by the Reeve of Charlotterville, Mr. McLeod, and I had the fishing stopped immediately until after the 1<sup>st</sup> of August: . . . Pike, pickerel, perch, large sized herring, loach, of all kinds, Channel Cat Sturgeon, Broad Mullet, Muskies &c. &c. &c. being in fact the general run of fish most numerous and taken there until last season. . . .

Mr. Whitche will no doubt now recollect that I brought this matter under his notice last November, when I saw him at Long Pt. in connection with Mr. Peter Presley's neglect of duty in this particular case.



I therefore beg most respectfully to say in reply to Mr W<sup>m</sup> Snooks telegram for leave to seine fish between the 30. of May, and 1<sup>st</sup> of August, and that it cannot and will not be sanctioned by me at Turkey pt or any seine hauling part of Lake Erie this season and so I told Snooks on the 24<sup>th</sup> of April, and on the 12, and 13. of May last, when at Turkey point, when I issued an order to that effect. -

By my report of the 15, May last, you will find that I paid W<sup>m</sup> Snooks 10, and \$2 costs for catching pickeral in close season. - I will here give you further particulars in this case. - - -

On the 23. of April last, after a journey of nearly 40 miles, I arrived at St Williams to find that W<sup>m</sup> Snooks was then breaking the Law, by fishing for, and catching pickeral in close season at Point de gras, Turkey point, but that Peter Price was then on his track. Snooks, caught 237, pickeral on the occasion referred to, and attempted to land them at Hornumdale or Fisher creek, where peddlars were in wait to receive them. - Peter Price was there also, and frustrated Snooks in his design. - - When Snooks found he was outwitted by the old woman, as he calls Peter Price, he put back 6 miles to Turkey point marsh, right away! - the same night, and there it was he hid away the pickeral; I got on the scent of next morning. - -

There was amongst this lot of pickeral 57 fish mostly female fish, full of spawn that would average 14, pounds each, and the fish were so long caught before found that it was advisable to give them away to the farmers as gifts from the dep<sup>t</sup> by my direction, so that they should not go to loss nor be thrown away instead of being sold for the benefit of the Department, which under other circumstances would have been

most undoubtedly the case. . . .

Such then is Mr W<sup>m</sup> Snook's position at Turkey point, besides he has been twice a defaulter before this, and who now telegraphs you to allow him to catch Wh<sup>l</sup> fish between the 30. May, and 1<sup>st</sup> of August, with an inch and a 1/4 mesh seine, 3" inch extension measure. . . .

In this case I may as well candidly tell you that I am opposed to such permission being granted to W<sup>m</sup> Snook, or to the other fishermen at Turkey point for this season. . . .

I hope my reasons are cogent, and satisfactory. In my own mind I feel I have pursued the most prudent and proper course, besides I did not ask you to give Turkey point fishermen, the same privileges I had asked for Niagara, B. beach, &c. &c. &c.

Yours sincerely,

&c. &c. &c.

O. Mowat,

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
A.

Sir,

3. July 1873.

I have the honor to send you herewith my accounts, and diary, for the quarter ending the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June last, together with the ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> Turkey point, and incidental accounts as follows;

	John W. Kerr's diary amounts to . . .	\$ 195.36.
1.	Mr James Harris, Turkey point. -	5.00.
2.	John W. Kerr, Telegrams. -	2.50.
3.	John W. Kerr. - Postages &c. -	1.46.
4.	John W. Kerr. - Stationery. -	1.50.
5.	John W. Kerr. - Office Rent. -	5.00.
6.	Pete Price. Guardian at Turkey point &c.	40.00.
7.	Charles John Kerr. Boatman. -	20.00.
8.	Mr J. B. Mathews - Livery. -	4.00.
9.	" H. C. Skeffe. Surveyor. -	10.00.
	Total, \$	284.82

In the performance of my duty as Overseer, during the quarter just ended; you will please find by my diary record, that I have travelled a distance of 2160 miles. - This I found necessary in the active discharge of my duties. -

Yours Minister  
H. H. H.  
H. H. H.

I Have &c.  
John W. Kerr

1873  
JUL 10  
1873

1873  
JUL 10  
1873



Sir,

8. July 1873.

I have the honor to report for your information that I find it will be necessary for me in the discharge of my duty to visit and make a tour of my district very shortly, as I find and have recently learned that a number of persons are preparing to fish, and others have already commenced fishing; but who have not applied nor do not intend taking out a license to fish, unless I pay them a visit.

Having made up my mind to do as I have here proposed, I beg most respectfully to apprise you of my intention, and thereby obtain your sanction and approval to the same.

I Have &amp;c

John W. Kerr

o.

Hon: Minister,

Hc. Hc. Hc.

Ottawa.

Friday, 4. July 1873 . . .

at the Coal Oil Refinery thence to Hamilton to see Mr. Cahill respecting the trial of the same went out at 8. a. m. came in at 12 Noon miles about 12. H & W<sup>th</sup> 2.50<sup>+</sup> . .

Saturday 5. July 1873 . . . .

at B. beach found all regular, went out at 4 1/2 p. m. came in at 11. p. m. miles 24, gave license to Mr. Shambell, and John Lauffe, ascertained that Mr. John Brown had a large Wh. fish from F. H. Corey in April 1872, and that it was so Coal Oiled he could not eat it. Fred: caught it in the Bay. . . . H & W<sup>th</sup> 2.00<sup>+</sup>

Sir, 8. July 1873.

I have the honor to apply to you ~~in behalf~~  
for half a dozen copies of the Canada Gazette  
(small sheet) containing the Order in Council  
dated 23. of August 1870. -

Also One Hundred Copies in slips of the  
Order in Council, in the above Gazette, dated  
Ottawa, Saturday, September 10. 1870. Superseding  
Regulation of 26. of April 1867, and in-  
stead; adopting the present Regulation in  
force. -

In making the complete tour of my  
district, I find I shall require such doc-  
uments.

Hon. Ministry  
H. V. H.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c  
John W. Kerr  
O.

\* Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> July 1873.

At the Oil Region at the head of Sherman's Inlet, thence  
to the Police Court, being of opinion that this was the day  
for giving decision in the Park factory case having it so  
entered in my Memorandum book, asked Mr James Cahill  
P. M. for his decision which he gave giving Mr Isaac  
Atkinson 50<sup>¢</sup> and Costs - went out at 8. a. m. came in  
at 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> p. m. Miles 10. - Parsons fined 50<sup>¢</sup> & Costs -  
Costs were paid. - - - - - No Ds. 1.50

\* Tuesday, 8. July 1873. -

At Hamilton, got out witness summonses, thence  
to the Refinery - To get some of the Oil or floating  
acid off the top of the water, went thence to the  
beach, served J. N. Corey with a summons to  
appear as witness, went out at 8. a. m. came  
in at 4. p. m. Miles 26. H & Ds. 2.50.

Wednesday, 9. July 1873. \*

at the Police Court, adjourned case of Mr Charles Williams was before James Cahill against Doctor Mr McIntosh, examined as regarded the chemicals the Oil handed him by J. W. Kerr, Overseer - contained put in his report, J. W. Kerr D. H. Gray, John Brown, Police Constable Miller, and P. D. Bate examined went out at 8. A. M. came in at 4. P. M. Miles 8. It & B \$1.50

Thursday, 10. July 1873.

at the Oak Factory, and Oil Refinery - took down Dr. McIntosh with me, who examined the premises so as to give evidence in behalf of the Cases, went out at 3. P. M. came in at 8 P. M. Miles 12. It & B, 2.50

Friday, 11. July 1873.

at the Police Court, in case ag<sup>t</sup> Isaac Atkinson, see evidence attached hereto, went out at 8. A. M. came in 4. P. M. Miles 8. - It & B - 1.50



X Sir,

12. July 1873.

X

I have the honor to send you Bank  
cheque No: 100, for the sum of sixty five dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
for this current year as follows: —

1. The Long Point Company fishing in Lake Erie  
license fee for the year 1873, only received this  
day, by me; license same as last year, — 60.00.
2. Mr Patrick Hand, Boat and gill net &c,  
fishing at Weynona, in Lake Ontario,  
part license fee on april of year 1872,  
Will send copy of license next week,  
when I receive balance and fee for  
current year, and this amount I only  
got this day also. —

5.00

Total \$65.00.

Hon: Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa,  
==

I Have &c  
John W. Kerr  
Perth

Monday, 15. July 1873.

at Weynona, township of Saugeen. went out at  
3. a. m. came in at 11. a. m. Miles 26. — \$44 B. 2.50.  
thence to Hamilton — to attend Police Court, got 24  
lb. fish, from Paddy Hand — distributed sixteen of  
them amongst my friends. — trial deferred until  
next day at 11. a. m. — Dr. Macintosh, and myself  
in attendance. C. A. Sadler Esq. there for the  
M<sup>rs</sup> Williams — and Mr Langer for the Prosec-  
ution. — — — to Hamilton and back 8 miles

Sir,

12, July 1873.

I have the honor to report for your information that on yesterday in this City, before James Cahill Esq<sup>r</sup> Police Magistrate, - Mr Isaac Atkinson, of Hamilton, who has an extensive Pork factory, at the Head of Sherman's Inlet, in the township of Barton, and which is an Inlet of B. bay, was fined fifty <sup>4</sup>/<sub>5</sub> and Costs, being charged by me with allowing lime chemical substances, Sulphuric Acid, Saltpetre, blood, offals &c. &c, to pass into, be left and remain in Sherman's Inlet, an Inlet of B. bay, waters frequented by the fish mentioned in the Fisheries Act. -

This case was brought up by me first on the 4 of June last, when evidence was taken the case was then adjourned for a fortnight, came up again, adjourned, and adjourned again and again, until yesterday, when it was finally disposed of as above. -

I send you herewith the published abstract copy of the evidence taken on yesterday which will at once show you the damage and injury done by this Pork Slaughtering Establishment to the fisheries of B. bay. - -

A notice of appeal to quarter sessions has been intimated by Counsel, and which will give the Proprietors, Mr Isaac Atkinson &c. &c, full swing until some time in September next, to continue on the repetition of the offence: - - I beg most respectfully to ask you for instructions, and the propriety of my taking further proceedings in this case. -

It was only when I commenced proceedings against the Oil Refineries, situated also at the head of Sherman's Inlet, that I discovered the injurious effects done by this Pork Establishment to the Fisheries of B. Bay. -

The pork after being cured is shipped to England. - The Hogs are all brought in the Western States, and slaughtered and cured here, and except the benefit derived therefrom, to the people of this place, as shown in my statement printed herewith; all and every other benefit derived from this Pork factory accrues to persons not residents in Canada. - - -

The damage done to the fish, and fisheries of B. Bay, has been immense more especially when this filthy accumulated filth and putrid polluted water became impregnated with Saltpetre lime, and Sulphuric Acid, and Coal Oil; and which has filled up the head of this inlet, for a depth of about 9 feet, and <sup>for</sup> a length of about 150 yards. -

Besides! I cannot tell how much more of it may be all over the remainder of this inlet, not taking into account the large quantities that may, and I know have gone out into and all over B. Bay. -

I believe! that unless the most stringent measures are carried into effect at once against this Pork factory, that the destruction of fish, judging by the past given in evidence, in the waters of B. Bay will be so immense, that I cannot at present calculate the damage and injury. - - - Its only a question of time, to accomplish their complete destruction. - if immediate action is delayed. - -





I hope therefore you will be pleased to instruct me at once what I shall further do. -- public opinion -- the public -- besides all the fishermen are roused and become now deeply interested in this case, and the Coal oil cases enquired into recently here, and they cry out vehemently, that this pork factory nuisance should be stamped out at once. -- Because of its unbearable filthy state, and the fear that it may spread Contagion. -- I believe but for the sulphuric Acid used, as a disinfectant this would have happened e'er this. ---

Of course so far as I am personally concerned, I am merely acting as your Overseer in the protection of the fish and fisheries of B. bay. ---

After Tuesday next, I shall report the result of my proceedings against the Oil Refineries at the Head of Sherman Inlet, Burlington Bay, in the township of Barton. --

I feel greatly indebted to Mr S. Largier the Counsel, whom you authorized me to employ in assisting me in these cases, he done his duty well, and to the witnesses "more than thirty" who stood by me I feel grateful to; and to the Police Magistrate James Cahill Esq, who held <sup>on</sup> so patiently through a long tedious enquiry, he never flagged nor faltered from beginning to the end, and for which he has my warm thanks.

I Have &c,  
John W Kerr  
a

Hon. Ministers  
H. H. H.  
Mawa.

# Wednesday, 16, July 1873. -

At the Police Court, Hamilton. the Williams Coal Oil Case on, and disposed of, - was examined also D. Mackintosh - Case settled by fine of ten dollars and Costs - Witness fees amounted to \$29, Magistrate and Constable and all \$31, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 4. p. m. Miles 8. \$4.90 B. <sup># 4</sup> 1.50. - from thence to B. beach to meet M<sup>rs</sup> Richard Bull and Mr. Foxworth, relative to Ms Barclay's holding there, went at 4. p. m. came in at 8. p. m. Miles 24. \$4.90 B. <sup># 4</sup> 2.50.

Sir,

18. July 1873.

I have the honor to report for your information that I have just succeeded after a protracted enquiry in Convicting M<sup>rs</sup> James M. and Charles Williams, Owners and Occupants, of the Petroleum Oil Refinery Works situated at the head of the Sherman Inlet, an inlet of B. bay, situated on lot 10, 1. Concession in the township of Barton, County of Wentworth, for allowing Coal Oil, Sulphuric Acid, Chemicals or drugs, poisonous matter or deleterious substances to fall into, be left, or remain in the water of the said inlet, the same being a portion of the water of B. bay, and frequented by the kinds of fish mentioned in the Fisheries Act. - - -

This Case was frequently adjourned until Wednesday last, the 16<sup>th</sup> instant, when C. A. Sadler Esq<sup>r</sup> Solicitor for the M<sup>rs</sup> Williams, came in, pleading guilty for the mitigated fine of ten dollars and Costs, inflicted by James Cahill Esq<sup>r</sup>, the Police Magistrate of this City. - This was done with the distinct understanding that due care and attention is to be taken in future to keep off the stuff, and from out of the water of Sherman Inlet, and B. bay altogether.

The neighbouring farmers, the vegetable gardeners, - the fishermen, who have been injured by this Coal Oil mixture &c., and the merchants John Brown, and John S. Mackenzie Esq<sup>s</sup> who purchased Coal Oiled fish, and after being cooked, could not eat them - stood by me gallantly! and assisted me most nobly in getting this Conviction. . . .

Then there is Mr David Macintosh whose report you will please find herewith (printed) was a clincher to the Case, and who has put the deleterious effects of this Coal Oil mixture &c., used by these defendants on fish, beyond all question and for all time to come. . . .

Mr Farquhar, the Solicitor done his duty well in this and the other Cases, and <sup>he</sup> deserves my warmest Consideration, and to the Doctors whose reports tell Volumes, and to the other witnesses not forgetting the two Merchants; to all of them I am infinitely indebted. . . .

I must however pay occasional visits to the Messrs<sup>3</sup> William Establishment, and watch and see that they do not repeat the offence. . . .

There is only about sixty five barrels of oil refined in this Establishment weekly, when it is in operation, - so that you can please judge, there is no difficulty whatever to comply with the requirements of the Fisheries Act. . . .

Mr Charles William informed me that the Establishment pay about 6,000 <sup>£</sup>dollars Revenue duties annually. . . . While the Coal Oil Works adjacent pay not a farthing. . . .

A strong letter written to me by the Department, would be a good and beneficial thing in its results, as I could read it for the Messrs<sup>3</sup> William. . . .  
Mr James M. William is the



Local member of Parliament for the City of  
Hamilton. - -

In conclusion, I may here state that the Magistrate from the Commencement to the end of this case done everything well, and gave it his undivided attention. - All of which is respectfully Submitted. -

I Have &c.

Hon. Ministers  
&c. &c. &c.  
Ottawa.

John W. Storer  
Solicitor.

Monday 21. July 1873. -

At St. Catharines to attend as witness in a case brought by the Council of Port Dalhousie against Peter Bath. gave my evidence - got \$3. for attending as witness. - went out at 8. a. m. came in at 6. p. m. miles 78. - \$4.00 to Hamilton \$2.00. - got 40. from D. B. Chisholm to pay Carpenter for framing shed: -

Tuesday 22. July 1873.

At Port Credit, James Wilcox paid me \$5. on acct of Fred's Shavers license fee of ten dollars heard a dog of Salmon was seen at Streetsville, by a man named who caught two of them, and liberated them again. - Wilcox reported a Coloured man &c. for fishing a gill net in Lake Ontario - it was seized by Fred's Shavers - who has it in his possession. went out at 8. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. miles 64. dinner 25<sup>¢</sup>. By fare 1.90<sup>¢</sup> and \$4.00 to: 1.50<sup>¢</sup>. -  
R. Shavers paid for 5. - \$3.65<sup>¢</sup>

Sir.

16. July 1873.

I am in receipt of your letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> instant, in which it is stated; I am directed by the Minister to request you to state whether such travelling is of immediate necessity or could ~~be~~ not with equal advantage to the service, be postponed until such time when other duties will urgently require your presence in that part of your division. - Also what would be the cost of such visits? -

In reply, I have the honor to report you that my division, as you are already aware requires at all times strict attention, and frequently prompt and immediate looking after. - - - and it so happens very often as soon as my back is turned to use a common phrase fishing will be commenced by persons, who! if I am able to pounce upon them at once, and make them amenable to the law, all future trouble is got rid of, law is established, while if such duty is postponed until such time, when other duties will require my presence in those neighbourhoods of my division - then it is that the duty can never be more than half executed, because the parties expecting me are on the watch, will give up immediately their contravention of the Fisheries Act, but as soon as I have passed they resume them again. - - -

It is to entrap such people, that I am obliged. - The cost all over my division will not exceed \$50. dollars. - - -

Hon. Minister  
 &c. &c. &c.  
 Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
 John W. Brown  
 &c.

Friday 25, July 1873.

At B. beach, put out the following notice for the consideration of Wm. Perkins, H. Corey, Alex. Rolan, D. Armstrong, and others, went out at 8. a. m. came in at 1. p. m. Miles 24, 144 B. - 2.50. -

I got Herrings from Mr. Dan. McJewyne, one of which when cooked, tasted of Coal Oil and could not and was not eaten, those herring were caught by Mr. McJewyne on fishing station No. 11, in Lake Ontario. - - -

Notice to Fishermen on Burlington Beach. -  
On and after the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August next, the fishermen on Burlington beach, "Seine and gill net fishermen" in arrears of rent, who seem to treat the matter indifferently; can fish no more, for the balance of this current year or until they pay up. - - -

This Notice is given as fair warning, and as tending to show what may be expected to follow, if immediate attention thereto, is neglected and postponed after the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August next. -

By Order,

Hamilton, Ontario.

23. July 1873. -

John W. Kerr

Quartermaster of Fisheries.

Noticed - Messrs Wm. Perkins, Alex. Rolan, and  
Helemiah Corey - by letter to each individually. - -  
Given. - - -



Sir,

26. July 1873.

I have the honor to apply to you for six copies of the Canada Gazette, dated, Ottawa, Saturday, September 10, 1870, containing the Governor General's Order in Council, dated 23. of August 1870.

My object in applying to you for these copies will be sufficiently explained when you find the only worn out copy I possess herewith.

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
Quebec.Hon: Minister of  
M & T. Ottawa

Sir,

26. July 1873.

I have the honor to report for your information that Herring caught on fishing station No: 11, in Lake Ontario, on B. beach, when cooked on Friday last, tasted and smelled of Coal Oil, and consequently could not be eaten. - In other respects the fish were fat, and plump, and in good condition.

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
Q.Hon: Minister  
H. H. V.  
Ottawa.

Sir,

26. July 1873.

I have the honor to apply to you in behalf of Mr Wellington Stull, of his village in the County of Wellington; for permission to catch speckled Trout, in the townships of Erin and Galadon, for to restock his Speckled Trout Breeding Establishment, situated at the village of Erin. —

You were pleased to give him privilege last season to do so. —

I beg most respectfully to recommend him to you for a similar indulgence this year. — I am satisfied so far, that he will not abuse the privilege if granted by you. —

I Have &c.

Hon: Ministers.  
H. H. H.

John W. Stull  
Owner

Ottawa.

Monday, 28. July 1873.

at Jordan, down to the Lake, up to above Probb  
thence to Beausville and Grimsby — Richard

Gilbert paid me \$5, for full net license, and  
James Durham paid me \$1, for do —

went out at 8, a. m. came in at 8, p. m.

Miles about 64. Ry fare \$1.50 — H. Ry \$1.50

dinner 30

Wednesday, 30. July 1873. —

at B. beach, Alex: Rolfe, paid me (16) six dol-  
lar, license fee of station B. B. beach, for  
current year, went out at 8, a. m. came in  
at 5, p. m. went round by the Heights, Miles  
about 30. — H. Ry \$2.50

Sir

26. July 1873. -

With reference to the Complaint preferred to me against Messrs. Parsons of the Carbon Oil Works at the head of Sherman Inlet, in the township of Barton, and County of Wexford: "For allowing chemical substances or drugs, deleterious substances, Sulphuric Acid, poisonous matter, and Coal Oil to pass into, be left, and remain in the waters of Sherman's Inlet, an inlet of B. bay, waters frequented by the kinds of fish mentioned in the Fisheries Act." --

I beg most respectfully to report for your information, that on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May last, I had the Carbon Oil firm of the Messrs. Parsons brought before James Cahill Esq. J. P. - Police Magistrate of the City of Hamilton, by summons charged as above. - Mr R. L. Whyte, the Superintendent of the Works, aided by Frank MacKellcan - Barrister &c. appeared for the Carbon Oil Company, while I appeared with Mr Langer - Counsel - for the prosecution, with witnesses to give strong evidence prepared to establish the Complaint. --

Messrs. MacKellcan, and Whyte, asked for an adjournment, which was granted in order that means and measures might be carried out by the Carbon Oil Co. whereby a final stop should be at once put to the offensive deleterious poisonous matter &c. &c. being allowed into the waters of B. bay if possible in future.

In the mean time and before the termination of this case, a large tank was put into position, and pipes put up at considerable expense into which the Sulphuric Acid, <sup>would be</sup> formerly be run into the waters of the Bay, is now put after which it is taken by Railway up to London where it is redistilled, and made fit for use again. --



The oil is all refined, before it is brought to the Carbon Oil Refinery herein alluded to. - -

Before action was commenced by me in this case, about 150 gallons of Sulphuric Acid, used weekly in this Carbon Oil Works was run into the bay, to the injury of <sup>the water</sup> and destruction of the fish mentioned in the Fisheries Act, that are in the water therein. - -

But since this action was commenced, there is but a trifling quantity allowed to pass into the water of the same too much however still in my opinion. - merely what may get there by leakage or soakage.

Besides the tank and pipes &c. there is a plank barrier secured to piles, put down which hems in and prevents the escaped soakage, leakage deleterious matter from running into the water of the lake and the water of the bay, and where it is intended it shall be burned up. - -

On Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> of July instant, this case came up for final adjudication, where a fine of \$50, and Costs were imposed, the Costs trifling were instantly paid which Mr. R. L. Whyte the Supt. hoped from the expenses he had gone into, to abate the injury to the water and the fish therein, and prevent a repetition of the offence. -

I would therefore now ask you to allow the fine in this case to remain in abeyance which I told Mr. Whyte I would recommend for your Consideration. - And I have now much pleasure in recommending the matter for your favourable Consideration. - I believe for you to do so, will be appreciated by the Carbon Oil Company, and their gentleman Superintendent, Mr. R. L. Whyte.

Hon. Minister

&c. &c. &c.

O. J. J. J.

I Have &c.

John W. Hess

a

Sir,

4, August 1873.

I have the honor to send you herewith  
Bank draft No: 132, for the sum of thirty dollars. -

This amount you will please apply as fol-  
lows; for this current year. - - -

- 1, James Overholt, balance in full of fishing  
license at Hornumdale, in Lake Erie. - - - \$ 8.00
- 2, Mr Richard Gilbert, a boat license in  
Lake Ontario, in front of the township of  
Tenth. - See Copy of license herewith. - " 5.00.
- 3, Mr Alexander Rolle, Boat and Seine  
hauling license on lot No: 6. - at Burlington  
Beach, in Lake Ontario, for current year. - \$ 6.00.
- 4, Mr Wm. Haskin license at Navy Island,  
in the Niagara River, for the current year,  
Copy of license herewith. - - - 5.00.
- 5, Mr Frank Shaver, Boat license, in Lake  
Ontario, at Port Credit, for this current year  
Copy of license, herewith. - - - 5.00.
- 6, Mr Isaac Durham, license to fish in  
Lake Ontario, in front of lot No: 21,  
just Conception of Clinton, for current  
year. - Copy of license herewith. - - - 1.00.

Total \$ 30.00

Hon: Minister,  
Hc. Hc. Hc.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
John W. Kerr  
O.

\* Thursday, 31. July 1873.

at Hamilton, Paris, Simcoe and Turkey Point, on special duty to see how <sup>the</sup> Snook was carrying on arrived there at 9. p. m. Miles 93. By fare <sup>1.00</sup> dinner tea and had  $7\frac{1}{2}$  stage fare Paris to Simcoe 1.50. H & Buggery 2.50. - when I arrived at Turkey Point Snook's men were hauling, no white fish in the haul went out at 8. a. m. Made enquiry at P. office, for person who mailed letter.

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 1873. -

\* All day at Turkey Point, sent for Peter Price who was at Long point, Robt Jackson went for Peter. - p<sup>d</sup> Jackson 1.50. Joe Jackson for H & B 1.00. made enquiry about Anonymous letter, saw Jim Harris, and several other persons about this letter several agreed that Bill Helmer, and Andrew Helmer got up the same and in this Peter Price agreed, was around the point all day. -

Board of 1.00

Sent Peter Price for a Constable and to invite John A. Backhouse Esq<sup>r</sup> J. p. to associate with me, and to issue the summonses - Peter Price lodged Complaint. -

Saturday 2. August 1873.

\* at Turkey Point, several witnesses summoned to give evidence against Snook, who admitted the offence. See my report, thence to Simcoe, Brantford, and home, went out at 11. a. m. Came in at 9.30. p. m. Miles about 78. - H & B, Simcoe to Brantford  $4.25$ , By fare  $95$  of Board  $7\frac{1}{2} + 2\frac{1}{2}$ . - H & B from B. pt to Simcoe. gave Jim Harris 4. - Peter paid me 8 from James Greenholt. Particulars of trial in my report. - - -



"Private"

8. August 1873.

Mr George Durnan the Light House Keeper on  
Laysan Island, one of the Licensees of the Fisheries  
there, has had and now has sickness in his family.  
His wife and his second eldest son are dying of  
Consumption - He has a large family of 9 children  
beside his sons wife to support. - I believe it  
would be an act of humanity to allow him  
to fish this year at least without exacting  
any license fee from him. - He has always  
heretofore been punctual in his payments of \$20.  
Annual fee. - - -

His Co-partners Messrs Ward and Gray  
paid me forty dollars this season their pro-  
portion. - Please refer to my letter to you  
of the 10<sup>th</sup> of June last. - - -

I believe it to be my duty to ask this  
favour from you in Mr Durnans behalf on  
behalf of the cause I here put forward. - -

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

I Have &c

The Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries,  
Hawaii.

John W. Kern,  
Overseer

Sir,

8. Augt 1873.

I have the honor to report for your information that Mr Johann Baldry of B. beach on Lake Ontario has sold out her house and place situated on the said beach near to the B. bay Canal to Mr H. J. Birley of the City of Hamilton, where he intends to erect a Summer Hotel, containing 200 Rooms.

I reported a great many particulars to you of Mr Baldry's place &c, &c, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 1872, when Mr H. B. Chisholm, one of the City members here then applied to you for this site &c, just now sold upon which to erect a Bathing Establishment. Hotel &c, &c. - - -

In reply, official to this communication of Mr Chisholm with my report thereon in behalf of the then applicant has ever since been received, consequently Mr George Lee, and the other gentlemen then interested not receiving any encouragement from the Fishery department nor from the Dominion Government, have since to use a common phrase, backed down. - - -

Mr Birley, however it appears is satisfied with Mr Johann Baldry's title to the premises whatever it is, and he has paid her the purchase money, \$2,000 for it, and he is determined to build a Hotel there without any reference to you, or to me or to any body else, beyond the simple fact of enquiring of me if Mr Johann Baldry had a fishing privilege there. - - -

"I believe Mr Baldry's house and premises is situated on the Canal Reserve."

I deem it my duty to apprise you of these particulars whereby you may learn the facts in the premises and that I at least, am in possession of what is going on on this subject. -

Hon. Minister,  
Ottawa,

I Have  
Johnston

Sir,

8. August 1873.

I have the honor to report for your information, that I meet daily when I visit the fisheries and fishermen on B. beach, Lake Ontario, Waggons loads of sand and gravel coming therefrom, and going to the City of Hamilton. --- Some of this gravel taken therefrom is intended for gardens and other walks, the sand is for building purposes, &c. &c. ---

There is no person at present employed nor authorized to prevent and stop this wholesale plunder made upon the Government Domains. ---

I met a dozen Waggon loads on yesterday coming from there and on their way to the City of Hamilton, and I saw a man on the beach who is daily employed, as he informed me drawing single loads of gravel in a one horse Waggon, for which he receives two dollars and  $\frac{50}{100}$  cent per load. ---

I had an application made to me recently by J. H. Coney, a fisherman - B. beach - in behalf of the Glaf Works - Hamilton - for liberty to take sand for the purpose of making bottles, in that Establishment. - I as a matter of course have no right to grant such a privilege, and so I informed him. -

My opinion is, that serious damage will ultimately result by this wholesale taking away from B. beach, sand and gravel



if restrictions of some sort are not immediately put in force, and resorted to . . . .

I can safely say; that from 20, to 30 Wagon loads of gravel and sand are taken from the beach daily. . . . Men with double teams and single wagons are making a comfortable living from the sale and proceeds of this sand and gravel. . . . They appear to have no other means of living, and they require no better job it is a very profitable one. . . .

In some places on B. beach, large holes are made by those people, and while some fishermen pour down the thing, and do not allow sand nor gravel to be taken away from the front of their fishing grounds; other fishermen are quite indifferent in the matter. . . .

The case is submitted for your information.

Hon: Minister  
H. H. H.  
Omaha.

I Have the Honor &c.  
John W. Kern  
O.

✱

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August 1873. -  
at Toronto; and the Island to see George Dorman and John Fisher about their license fees, went out at 9, a. m. Came in at 12. m. night, miles about 50, Rip <sup>4</sup> 1.30. Boat fare 10. - dinner tea and bed 75¢.

See Report about George Dorman license Money. . . .

# Wednesday 6, August 1873. -  
 at Toronto, and Home, went out at 8,  
 a. m., came in at 5. p. m., miles about 50,  
 Pay <sup>#</sup> 1.30, breakfast and dinner <sup>#</sup> 50. - -

# Thursday, 7, August 1873. -  
 On B. beach, to enquire about Mr Johann  
 Baldry selling his house and place to Mr  
 H. J. Birely. - See my report of 8<sup>th</sup> instant  
 on this subject, went out at 9, a. m. came  
 in at 5. p. m., miles about 26. H & B <sup>#</sup> 2.50.

Sent licence to Dick Gilbert, Isaac Durham,  
 William Haskins, and Alex. Kolla, for the cur-  
 rent year. - - 9. August 1873. -  
 paid postage stamps <sup>#</sup> 25.

My dear Sir,

I duly received your appli-  
 cation for leave to catch speckled trout, this  
 year, same as last year, and as you will per-  
 ceive the fishing department have acceded to  
 your request. - -

I send you herewith a copy of the  
 communication I received from the Minister on  
 the subject. Believe me

Very sincerely, Y<sup>r</sup> truly

John W. Kerr

H. Oversee

Hamilton, Onto

9. Aug<sup>r</sup> 1873.

Mr Wellington Hall,  
 Erin Village.

Copy of Leave

3

Canada.

Fishing Commissioners Office,

Hamilton, 11. August 1873.

My dear Sir, —

Yours of the 30<sup>th</sup> day of July last, is received in which you say: "I am preparing an article on Salmon and Salmon Culture, and desire to embody in it all the facts I can gather in relation to the Salmon of Lake Ontario, Can you assist me?" —

"In a synopsis of your Official Report for 1872, I read the statement that ~~the~~ Salmon streams between Whitley Harbour, and Bronte comprise Lynde Creek, Duffins Creek, the Rouge, Highland Creek, the Credit and Humber Rivers?" —

I cheerfully comply with your desire by answering the following questions. —

Question No: 1.

Are there any other streams between the limits named that were originally frequented by Salmon? —

Answer. —

Yes! Petticoat Creek, "now dried up", the Don, the Mimico, the twenty and twelve mile Creeks. —

Question No: 2.

Have Salmon ever been entirely extinct in any of the streams named? —

Answer. —

Yes! they have been extinct in every one of them, being completely killed off before our Fishing laws were enacted to protect them. — And the Govt Salmon Hatching House at New Castle was established to replenish them. —

Question No: 3. —

At what date each year do the Salmon make their appearance in the vicinity of those streams? —

Answer. —

Salmon are to be found in the Lake (Ont.)



in front of, and about the mouth of those streams now frequented by them from the month of May until the middle, sometimes the latter part of the month of October, when they enter the streams and ascend them to spawn therein...

They are protected while in the Lake or the vicinity of the River or Creek mouth by Sub Section 10. of Section 7. of the Fisheries Act, thus: "No Salmon shall be captured within 200 yards of the mouth of any tributary, Creek or stream, which Salmon frequent to spawn..."

Question No: 4. --

Do they enter them before the breeding season? --

Answer.

Yes, frequently, during high water freshets, and when very numerous during years gone by, they invariably entered the River Credit in spring each year, where they were caught by the <sup>then</sup> inhabitants and known under the name of Spring Salmon...

Question No: 5. --

Are Salmon now or were they ever caught in the waters of Lake Ontario itself in the spring, or early summer, if so, how early? --

Answer.

Yes, they were frequently caught and in large quantities in Lake Ontario, in front of Duf-  
fin's Creek, and the Thames, and in Lake On-  
tario in front of Cranberry Marsh, which is situated about one mile, west of, the mouth of the River Credit; now occasionally single fish are still caught by the fishermen in their seines while engaged fishing for white fish, when if not injured they are liber-  
ated... They were caught as early as the month of May, and from that to up to October, (when specially fished

for heretofore) they are not now fished for at all. - And no person fished for them earlier than the month of May, because if they did the Salmon would not be found there. -

Question, No: 6.

How are they, or were they caught? -

Answer. - -

With seines, in those places referred to, in my answer to your question No: 5, while in the creeks & Rivers with the spear, occasionally now in white fish draw seine, while in deep water with white fish (gill) and S. Trout gill net.

Question, No: 7. -

Do you know whether Salmon were ever caught in Niagara River. -

Answer. -

Yes, I am aware they have been caught there recently, and in its vicinity, but only a single fish now and again during each year of recent years. - -

Question, No: 8. -

How large are the Salmon taken in the early part of the season? -

Answer. -

From six to ten and sometimes as high as fifteen pounds each. -

Question, No: 9. -

Are there any fish among them? -

Answer.

Yes, a small proportion. -

Question, No: 10. -

Was there a large proportion of fish among the Salmon that entered Lynd's Creek and Duffin Creek last fall? -

Answer.

No! quite the contrary, in almost

every instance the Salmon were large fish in perfect condition, when they first entered the streams. . . .

I hope my answers to your questions will meet your approbation. -

I thank you sincerely for the copy of your last year's Report, and will be at all times willing and prepared to answer such other questions as you may from time to time desire.

And Believe me

Very truly and Sincerely

Yours  
John D. Kerr.  
J. D. Kerr.  
Hamilton, Onto.

\* Wednesday, 13, August 1873 . . .

At Toronto, Frenchman's bay, and back to the City of Toronto again. - William McEbert paid me 5<sup>#</sup> for License fee to fish at Shoal Point, thence to enquire about Bush who has been fishing there with a seine; Heard John Fisher caught a salmon eight pounds weight in his seine at Frenchman's bay. Went out at 8. a. m. came in at 1/2 past 10. p. m. Miles 83. Pay fare 1.30 and 55. Walked 11 miles for which I charged nothing. - dinner, bed and then \$1.00, - 44 Pay. -

\* Thursday 14, August 1873. -

At Toronto, saw John Fisher there, on Board his vessel. had a long chat with him, he is to send me his License fee next week, thence home by train. - Saw John Hall, J. W. By on my arrival there in his office, went out at 5 a. m. came in at 12. noon Miles 48. Pay fare 1.30. breakfast 25. -



Sir,

14. August 1873.

I deeply regret to inform you, that William Lang, a fisherman at Port Union in Lake Ontario, and his crew recently stole a Barrel of Pork, from off a Freight car while in a siding at Port Union station of the Grand Trunk Railway. - A detective was sent out from Toronto, who found two pieces of the Pork in Langs shanty and the balance in a wooden crib convenient thereto. -

Of course identity of the pork was out of the question, because it was taken from the barrel the lid being first knocked out. - - Every one in the neighbourhood, believes Lang & Co. guilty of the offence. -

On last Sunday evening, Robert Black, and another of Langs fishing crew, killed and cut the throat of a goose, the property of Mr. William Cowan, a gentleman residing on, and owning the property in which the Range is situated. - Mr. Cowan caught them in the act, and is determined to prosecute them. - Black and the other man tried to escape in a sail boat, and when closely pursued, left the boat, and took to the woods. -

My own opinion is that Lang should be deprived of his license for the balance of this year, because of such disreputable conduct. on his part, and the crew. -

The Hon;

The Minister

Ottawa. -

I Have &c,

John W. Kent  
Overseer

\* Monday Night 11. August 1873.

At B. beach, went out at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  p. m. came in at 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  a. m. miles 26. \$4 & Pay 2.00 - Charles Kent with me. - - -

## Confidential

Sir,

15. August 1873. —

I have the honor to report for your information, that repeated enquiries have been made to me recently of the progress made in breeding Salmon in the Government Establishment at New Castle under the Superintendence of Mr. Samuel Wilson. —

People say! that Salmon should be now very numerous in Lake Ontario, if the very flattering accounts they have read from time to time in the Tronto Globe and other news papers be true. —

But still people say; the market never shows by having Salmon therein for sale that any visible increase has yet taken place. (Altho they say it is about time,) beyond what the news papers are occasionally prompted to say on the subject. — While White fish, "equally run down as Salmon were". — Salmon Trout, pickled, and many other varieties of fish of a superior class, have visibly increased and are daily to be found in the markets, all the year round. — Such being the common every day talk for some time past.

As regards White fish, I have no hesitation in telling you, that a fine description of this class of fish has never been seen the Hamilton market, before during the last 20 years, nor so many of them, as has been this season, and which has been the case in the Lake Ontario portion of my division all this season! — From five to ten pounds, white fish each are a pleasing and satisfactory sight to look at, in the fish stalls of Hamilton, when garnished with Salmon Trout, &c. &c. Caught with gill nets in Lake Ontario, within 12 miles of Hamilton.

But as the people say! where are the Salmon, had  
at New-Castle..

I deem it my duty to lay matters of such  
notoriety before you. . . . .  
The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister I have the

The Minister  
He. He. He.  
O'Connor.

John W. Kerr.  
Quebec.

Hamilton, 11. August 1873.

John W. Kerr, Esq.  
Fishery General.

Dear Sir. —

Mr. Morris J. Bivalley  
has purchased from Mrs Johanna Baldrey, the Build-  
ings and improvements held by her on Burlington  
Beach, together with any other right she was en-  
titled to; and he now wishes to obtain the  
Ordinary fishing Lease, and the Consent of the  
Department to make further improvements on  
the land. . . .

Will you be kind enough to bring this  
matter before the Minister of the Department for  
his decision. . . .

Yrs Truly.  
R. R. Waddell.



Sir,

16. August 1873.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> instant, I addressed a letter to you, informing you that Mr H. J. Birley, of the City of Hamilton had bought out Mr Johann Baldry's House and premises situated on Burlington Beach, Lake Ontario.

I have now the honor to submit for your information and consideration the application of Mr R. R. Wadde, Solicitor, soliciting in behalf of Mr H. J. Birley the fishing privileges heretofore enjoyed by Mr Johann Baldry, also the privilege of making improvements upon the land of the beach adjacent to the fisheries, but on which Mr Johann Baldry has planted willow trees now grown to be handsome shade trees.

Because I consider this purchase of property by Mr H. J. Birley, is much to the advantage of the Fisheries on that part of Br<sup>o</sup> beach, I have much pleasure in recommending that you will be pleased to give your sanction to this sale, back rents &c. being paid up by Mr Johann Baldry, if any, before the same is completed.

I Have &amp;c. &amp;c.

John W. Kerr

Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Minister,  
 &c. &c. &c.  
 Ottawa.

Postage  
 25¢

Sir,

20. August 1873.

I have the honor to report for your information that Mr Dorothy Waddell, widow of the late James Waddell, a fisherman, deceased, has sold her spotted right to a piece of B. beach her late husband and herself had fenced in as a garden, for the sum of \$75, to Mr S. L. Gregory of the City of Hamilton, and on which he intends to build a small Cottage as a summer residence . . .

The garden about one acre of land is situated on the bay side of B. beach in front of a lime hauling ground in the bay . . . I explained to Mr Gregory, and Mr Waddell that a chain in depth, should be taken from this lot, and be retained as a reserve back into the said lot, from the water edge for fishing purposes . . . The land here referred to, is government land, Mr Waddell only sells a spotted right . . .

When the papers are complete I shall endeavour to get a copy of them for you . . .

At present there is a great demand for sites on which to build summer residences and a Hotel. I shall however look close to our fishing rights in the premises, and in the mean time I would respectfully recommend that this rule of leaving one chain on the Bay side of the beach, as I presume it is already on the Lake Ont. side of B. beach. This to be left as a fishing reserve . . .

And I would respectfully recommend that an order would be promulgated from the department of Marine and Fisheries for the information of intended purchasers as well as for fishermen's <sup>holders of</sup> spotted rights to the government land on B. beach . . .

"This is now become necessary, from the fact of great demand being daily made for portions of the said beach, as sites to build upon. -

I Have &c.

Hon. Ministers

H. H. H.

M. H. H.

John W. Kerr

a.

P. S. - Ms Dorothy Meadwell since her husband's death maintains herself by keeping an unlicensed Tavern, of a not very respectable nature. -

Yrs John W. Kerr.

Thursday 21, August 1873, - - -

At B. beach got from Ms Joann Baldrey a transfer of her fishing license to Ms Harriet F. Kinsley of the City of Hamilton, went out at 8 a.m., came in at 3 p.m. miles 26. - Hd B. 1.50.

Ms Baldrey told me that Thompson was raising a great fuss about sand being taken off the beach by Dr. H. Corey. -

Inquired into it, heard from George Williams that when he was loading the scows Thompson the Light House Keeper palped on his way to John Thomas's for milk, and that he stepped on one of the plank but never spoke to him, palped back again and never spoke, nor asked to stop him from taking the sand. -

Was getting the sand for the glass works - Hamilton, -



Sir, 21. Aug 5 1873.

I have the honor to send you herewith cheque \$20.153, for the sum of twenty dollars.

This amount you will please apply on fishing stations nos. 18. and 19, in Lake Ontario on B. beach. -

And on fishing stations nos. 1. and 2, in B. bay, on B. beach for the year 1873.

You will please find copies of the the License herewith. -

I Have &c.

Hon. Minister of  
M & F.  
Ottawa.

John W. Hart,  
Oswego.

691  
20  
11

Monday 25. August 1873. -

At Winona, to see Paddy Stand regarding fishermen, threatening to fish on his licensed premises in Lake Ontario, without his consent. Went out at 8.10 a.m. came in at 7.15 p.m. Miles 40. By fare 90. - dinner 25. 144 Pay 1.50. -

Friday 29. August 1873. -

At B. beach, Thomas Martin, paid me \$20, License fee, for 1872, and 1873, - of fishing station no. 12, on B. beach, noticed J. H. Croy, to take no sand off. Horrie's & Birley's fishery for the glass works of the City Hamilton, which he said he would strictly observe. - Heard from Croy that Captain Thompson had threatened George William for taking the sand. Went out at 9 a.m. came in at 4. p.m. - Miles 24, St. and Bury. - - - 2.00

Sir,

1. September 1873.

I have the honor to send you here-  
with Bank Cheque No: 162, for the sum of (30)  
thirty dollars. ---

Will you be pleased to apply this  
amount as follows; for the current year of  
1873. -

1. Mr William McLeont, License fee, for this cur-  
rent year, License already received. --- \$ 5.00
  2. Mr Thomas Martin, License fee, on fishing  
Station, No: 12. Br. Beach, Lake Ontario, for  
years 1872. and 1873, Copy of License herewith, 20.00
  3. John Connor, Boat License fee, for this current  
year, as per Copy of License herewith. --- \$ 5.00
- Total. \$ 30.00

Hon: Minister,  
He. He. He.  
Albany.

I Have &amp;c

John W. Kerr,  
O.

30. August 1873. ---

John Connor. paid me five dollars for a  
license to fish between Williams Store House  
and John W. Wilson Store House - in Lake Ont.  
in front of Saltfleet for year 1873. ---

P. D. Bates gave me the five dollars  
for him. ---

Sib

1. September 1873.

Mr George A. Lacey, of Hillsbury, has applied to me for leave to catch parent speckled trout in the streams of Caledon and Ken, for the purpose of restocking his Trout Breeding Establishment. . . .

This matter is altogether submitted for your Consideration. - He has written me that by the breaking away of ~~the~~ one of his dams, twenty thousand of his speckled trout were carried away. -

I Have &c

Hon. Ministers  
He . . . He . . . He . . .

John W. Kerr

Wm. . . .

Ink

Friday, 5. September 1873.

at B. beach. Mrs Baldry paid me of 3. License fee. a winding up of her fishery there. she having sold out. - Heard from Mr C. and H. M. C. that Dan: McFoyne had fished the night before assisted by Jim Rolo, Sam<sup>e</sup> and Jas. Corey and caught a great quantity of small white fish. that Mr C. got a couple of them. and H. M. C. said it was a great shame to catch them. Robert McCardle and Jacob Corey. were also present, and saw the haul. - Examined Dan: McFoyne's boxes, but found only a small white fish. - He having taken the balance to Market. Conversed with Zachariah Corey, who told me it was so, and when brought before the Magistrate he would swear the truth. - went out at 8. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. - - - miles 26. At B. beach. - - - 2.00



My dear Sir,

Complaint was made to me against you a short time ago, that you were fishing gill nets in Lake Ontario, in front of the township of Clinton. -

The law simply says; you cannot do so, without a license from the department of Marine and Fisheries. - See and find order in Council herewith. - If you desire to continue fishing on, please pay over each of you a sum of One dollar for me to Mr. Abraham Cobb, of Clinton, a fisherman and he will remit the money to me, when I shall at once get for you and each of you the license. -

I have written this letter to you for them all, please communicate with each of the persons named and you will greatly oblige me.

David Price,  
Clinton, On Lake Shore

Beamsville P. Office Hamilton, Onto  
1st Sept 1873.

Yrs Respectfully,  
John W. Kerr

D. Guelph

Names of persons represented to me who have fished gill nets. -

1. Mr Philip Gufford. - 2, Solomon Culps. -
3. " Joseph Gufford. 4. Adrian Home. -
5. " Wm. House. - 6, David Price. -

Yrs Respectfully  
John W. Kerr.

Guelph,

1st Sept. 1873.

P.S.

Mr Cobb, lives on Shenandoah place.

W.K.

Sir,

1. Sep: 1873.

With reference to your "Circular" of the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May last, I now send you twenty one blank licenses for gill net fishing, and thirteen blank licenses for station fishing, all bearing the stamp signature of the Minister. . . .

Will you be pleased to furnish me with twenty five blank fishery licenses for gill nets for Lake Erie fall fishing, as I have run out of those blank forms. —

I Have &amp;c.

Hon: Minister  
 &c. &c. &c.  
Ottawa.

John W. Sten.  
 a.

Stationary

50 c

do.

25 c

Ink

1/2 lb

20 -

Postage

postage 12,

11-9-

Sir,

I am in receipt of your application for a license to fish.

Please let me know the quantity and kind of net you intend fishing, and I will send you all the information requested. - You cannot fish on or under John Gensell's license, nor without a license from the Department of Marine and Fisheries. - Please state what place you intend fishing in giving the limits and boundaries.

Mr. James Summons,  
Puritan Hotel,  
Leslieville P. Office,

Yours truly,  
John W. Gensell  
J. Gensell.  
Hamilton, Ont.  
5. Sep 5 1873.

Postage 6¢

\* Sat. 6. Sep. 1873. - - -  
at Hamilton: - got out summonses for all the persons complained of, see back to the 5<sup>th</sup> instant, - gave the summonses to Mr. Saml. McNamee to serve the parties with. - went out at 8. a.m. came in at 12. Noon - 44 Poy - Miles 10.



My dear Sir:-

4. September 1873.

Your kind, flattering and highly complimentary letter of the 29<sup>th</sup> of August last, was received by me this day.--- You may rest assured that it gives me very much pleasure at all times to be in a position to answer your questions and enquiries about the Salmon of Lake Ontario. ---

You say: "allow me to ask one or two additional questions." -

Question No: 1. -

I have heard that Salmon have been caught by fishing through the ice on the Canadian Coast of Lake Ontario in the month of March. Do you know anything about this? -

Answer No: 1.

So have I, but on enquiry it invariably turned out that the fish caught were Salmon Trout, instead of Salmon. --- Before Salmon Trout gill nets were first introduced, and fished in Lake Ontario, long lines, and hooks baited with herring for Salmon Trout, at which fishermen then made a profitable business "this was many years ago". No Salmon whatever have been caught through the ice in Lake Ontario, during the month of March, that I have ever heard of. ---

Question No: 2.

What is your opinion about the Lake Ontario Salmon migrating to the sea? State the reason on which your opinion is grounded? - -

Answer No: 2.

My opinion is, that Lake Ontario Salmon migrate to the sea once a year, which happens immediately after spawning time. - When they are foul, or unclean Salmon. --- They have to go, and get the benefit of the sea and salt water, which cleanse them of their unclean filthy condition. ---

For mind you! after Salmon spawn in our Creeks on the north shore of Lake Ontario, being very low in condition; "for they eat nothing during spawning time" Besides being hard worked, as appears by the wounds on the nose, the belly, and tail, caused by rooting gravel, sand; and sometimes large stones, off the rapids in the creeks, when making the beds in which to deposit the spawn. -- They become infected on the belly and gills, with vermin insects, and lice, and to get rid of them must migrate to the sea, where they not only get rid of those insects natives of the Creeks, and fresh water; but they get also themselves into good condition, in quick time. --

The Salmon cannot get rid of those blood sucker insects in fresh water; the reason they go to the sea, is to get rid of them, and to recruit after spawning. And from foul, spent, unclean Salmon to become in a very short time, fat clean fish in splendid condition, which is a fact, that is admitted by every man. --

And now comes what you will perhaps say is direct clashing and contradiction on my part. -- I maintain however, that my assertion will be borne out by learned men of science and great knowledge, acquired by them after long ~~and~~ close observation and study, who have made themselves so familiar with the Salmon, "this noble fish", as to be able to treat accurately, minutely, and correctly of the fish; its migrating habits to the sea for a purpose, and back again to the fresh water Creeks &c, for another purpose. --

I have just previously said when the Salmon arrive in the sea, in salt water

from the fresh water spawning grounds the Creek on the north shore of Lake Ontario, and Dominion of Canada; they are foul, spent and unclean fish, poor in condition, covered over with vermin blood sucker insects; wounds on their nose belly and tail, inflicted by themselves and by one another, while engaged rooting gravel, sand and stones on the reefs in the Creek, with which to form and make their spawning beds, finished by them with so much care and attention. -- These wounds soon heal over, and they become again, as really they are, the handsome splendid fish, in good and excellent condition. -- It is then, when Salmon arrive at this state of splendid condition and perfection; that the gills of the fish again become filled up with insects (vermin) the production of the salt water and the sea; so annoying to the Salmon are these insects, that the Salmon resort again to the fresh water of Lake Ontario, and there get rid of them at once. -- Not having salt water insects, they can only be got rid of in the fresh water. -- This is the true nature of Salmon, the world all over; and hence it is, that Salmon can only live and become the good choice and splendid fish and good they are, by having free access to the sea, and fresh water "alternately" of Lake Ontario, &c. &c. as herein before described by me. -- Salmon kept continually in fresh water, having no access to the sea, will I assert without fear of contradiction, ultimately dwindle away, cease breeding, become lank, lean, long thin bodied shapeless fish, with large heads, and of no use nor account whatever. --

If Salmon <sup>were to</sup> remain altogether in the sea, without resorting to the fresh water



or to the waters of Lake Ontario. - They will soon become extinct, and exterminated; for the simple reason, that they never spawn in the sea, nor in salt water. -

This common sense view, so impressed upon my mind, is such as I have here minutely described it unto you. - I hope you agree with me. -

Question No: 3. -

Do you know anything about their food? - Do those caught in the Lake ever have food in their stomachs. - If so what is it? -

Answer No: 3. -

Yes! they devour <sup>the</sup> small fry of the various kinds of fish in Lake Ontario, particularly <sup>herring</sup> <sup>even</sup> <sup>their</sup> <sup>own</sup> <sup>young</sup> <sup>species</sup>, <sup>besides small insects, or baits (fly) and which is the fly before it hatches out.</sup> I have seen as many as twenty and twenty, <sup>you</sup> <sup>have</sup> <sup>taken</sup> <sup>from</sup> <sup>two</sup> <sup>large</sup> <sup>salmon</sup> caught in the seine that came from Fraser No. of Quebec in the year 1872, when opened and resold by Mr. John Davis, Fish dealer in the City of Hamilton Market, Canada. and I have heard old fishermen and old Residents along the Banks of Lake Ontario, north shore, say; the food of our Lake Ontario Salmon is such as I have herein described it to you. -

Question No: 4. -

Do you know whether Salmon were ever plenty in Niagara River? -

Answer No: 4. -

I have heard that Salmon have been occasionally found in the Niagara River

3



but they were never caught there in large quantities. —

P. S. —

What in your opinion was the cause of the disappearance of Salmon from Lake Ontario, and Tributaries? —

Answer to P. S. —

The principle cause I attribute to the wholesale destruction of the Salmon on the spawning (grounds) beds, on the rapids in the Salmon Creek, on the north shore of Lake Ontario, caused on to extermination, and except with spear, lack light, and draw seine, in years that are past, and subsequently before the present fishing Dominion Act came into operation; and allowing Salmon to be caught with pond nets to except without proper restrictions.

Believe me,

Very truly yours,  
John W. Stearns.

J. W. Stearns. —

Hamilton District.  
Onto Canada.

Charles J. Atkinson Esq  
Bucksport...  
Maine...  
United States. —

Sir

6. September 1873.

Yours of the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant, is just received with reference to mine of the 1<sup>st</sup> instant, regarding the application of Mr George A. Lacey, of Hillsburg, for permission to catch speckled trout in the streams of Caledon and Erin, for purposes of restocking his Trout Breeding Establishment. -

I have much pleasure in recommending that the same may be granted to him for the unexpired period of this current year. - - -

Hon.

Minister of  
M & Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

I have &amp;c.

John W Kerr  
J. O.,

My dear Sir -

In accordance with my recommendation to your application, the Minister grants permission to you to catch speckled trout during close season, for the purpose of restocking your Trout Breeding Establishment. Please govern yourself accordingly.

Yrs sincerely,  
John W Kerr  
J. O.

Geo. A. Lacey Esq  
Homesdale  
Hillsburg, P. Office.

Hamilton, Ont.

12. Sep: 1873.

My dear Sir,

I wrote you on the 4<sup>th</sup> instant, and upon reflection have come to the conclusion to answer question No: 3, more fully: You will please substitute this answer instead of that I have already sent you: -

Question No: 3.

Do you know anything about their food? - Do those caught in <sup>the</sup> Lake (Ontario) ever have food in their stomachs; If so, what is it? -

Answer, No: 3. - -

Yes! they devour the small fry of the various kinds of fish in Lake Ontario, particularly herring fry, minnows &c. even when they enter the fresh water Salmon streams early in the season, early in summer, they devour parr, their own species, Corbites, guppies, insects, flies, everything that a speckled trout feeds upon; even common worms, and speckled trout fry. - - -

I have seen as many as twenty, and twenty four parr taken from the stomachs of two large Salmon; that were caught in the Moise River, Lower Canada, sent here from Fraser & Co. of Quebec in the summer year 1872. - That when opened and viewed by Mr. John Davis, a fish dealer, in the City of Hamilton here Canada, the parr were so fresh in appearance as to be recognized by me and others at once as parr. - Many other Salmon purchased by Mr. Davis, from Fraser & Co. Quebec when cut up for sale during every season have more or less parr in their stomachs.

Those Salmon sent here by Fraser & Co. are caught in the Moise annually, and as I understand it, in fresh water. -

I have heard old fishermen and anglers beside old residents along Lake Ontario north and south shore between White Lake and Niagara, say; the fry of our Lake Ontario



Salmon is such, as I have herein described  
it to you. -

Believe me

Very Truly Yours  
John W. Kerr

J. O.

Hamilton District, Ontario, Canada  
11. September 1873.

Charles J. Atkins Esq  
Bucksport,

Maine, -

United States, -

Postage <sup>4</sup> 12.

My dear Sir, -

Yours of the 8<sup>th</sup> instant, is received,  
Send me ten dollars, and you shall have your  
license to fish where you have asked for. -

But recollect John Russell cannot fish with  
you. His license is for a different place..

Mollard and you will occupy the ground. -

Yrs Truly,

John W. Kerr

J. O.

Hamilton, Onto

12. Sep: 1873,

Mr J. Simmonds  
Whitman Hotel.  
Leslieville P. Office.

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 7<sup>th</sup> instant, is received  
He can fish at Barrens gully. - I had a letter  
from a man named John Adair, of Dexter a  
short time ago, who wants a license to fish a  
Seine, but I have had no letter from McHowell  
for a license. -

I mean to come up shortly. - In the  
mean time the person you refer to, can fish  
with hooks there.

Yrs Sincerely  
Johannes

Capt Thomas Thompson,  
Port Bruce,

N. H.,  
Hamilton Ont

12, Sep. 1873.

4.

Tuesday, 9. Sept. 1873  
at Union to see P. Adams, a fisherman  
there, got from him 10 lb. of a fine  
trout. Went to Henry Adams a fisherman  
Joe Adams a fisherman, a fisherman  
back to Adams and at 5.30  
in at 5.30 p.m. Adams

My dear Sir, —

In speaking of the food of white fish, at page 85 of your report, for the years 1867, and 1868. — the 10, 11, 12 and part of the 13<sup>th</sup> lines you are pleased to say; "And what is strange no one knows what it feeds on. — I have opened the stomachs of hundreds of them, and never found a particle of food, nothing but a kind of mucus."

In Mr. Sam<sup>l</sup> Wilmet's Report during the season of 1871, at page 81, appendix B. of the Annual Report of the Department of Marine and Fisheries of Canada, ending the 30<sup>th</sup> of June 1871, he is pleased to say; in writing about the food of the White fish: — "Its food consists almost wholly of the articulate, and annelata tribes of Animals, such as small crustacea, worms, insects, and larva of all kinds; many of these from feeding upon the juices of the algae and other aquatic plants growing at a great depth under water, partake of their vegetable flavour; these, being fed upon in turn by the White fish, convey to it that peculiar ~~flavour which induces many~~ white-fish of flesh, and delicacy of flavour, which has induced many writers in ichthyology to state that the *Coregonus Albus*, or white fish of North America, is not an animal feeder, but a vegetarian."

I now present to your view, and for your information, and consideration, two opinions Mr. Sam<sup>l</sup> Wilmet and your own as to the food of the White fish, in doing so, I have simply

to inform you that white fish live and feed on  
shell fish, small muscle shell fish of a very dim-  
inutive size, and also upon a small shrimp like  
insect, which when examined by a microscope will  
lead you to believe it is a claw-fish; or as some  
people style them fresh water crabs. - and while  
I do assure you that on ~~many~~ every examination  
I have made of the contents of the stomach of a  
white fish, I have always found those shell fish  
and shrimps; I may here add for your inform-  
ation that I have never found in their stomachs  
anything else in the shape of food. -

I hope you will pardon me for  
touching upon this subject and believe me  
very truly and sincerely yrs Obediently

John W. Kerr

Charles J. Atkins Esq  
Belfast, Me.  
United States

J. A. for  
Hamilton District  
Ont. Canada  
11. Sep 1893. -

	Bells	
Spring Wheat. - - -	30	
Fall Wheat. - - -	55	85-4 3.40
Barley. - - -	144	3 4.32
Oats - - -	342	2 6.86
	572	22 14.58

Barley sold 40.00 at 104 = \$41.60  
do 40.12 at 104 = "41.86  
Load of straw 4.50  
do 39.12  
straw 6.00  
15.00  
15.00  
15.00

Oats -

15.00

15.00



Sir,

13. September 1873. -

I have the honor to apply to you for a license to fish Salmon Trout, and White fish gill net in Lake Ontario, for the remainder of this current year. - The James Simmonds, the applicant resides at Leslieville, east of the City of Toronto. - I recommend that the license may be granted, a copy of which you will please find herewith. -

I shall send you the license fee ten dollars in a few days. -

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister

H. H. H.

Ottawa,

I Have &amp;c. &amp;c. &amp;c.

John W. Kerr

Deputy

Sir,

13. Sep: 1873.

With reference to my report to you dated 17. June last, regarding the fishways to be erected in the Mill dam on Smith Creek. - Will you be pleased to send me the printed notices for the Mill Owners signed by the Minister.

Hon: Minister.

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr

Sir,

19. September 1873.

I have the honor to recommend with your sanction, and approval that a certain speckled trout stream situated in the townships of Wilket, and County of Waterloo, and in the township of Blenheim in the County of Oxford, be set apart under Section 15, of the Fisheries Act, for the natural and artificial propagation of fish.

The place desired to be set apart, commences on Lot No. 13, in the third Concession of the township of Wilket, Block A, and all the intervening lots therein up to the south half of Lot No. 16, which is in the 4<sup>th</sup> Concession of the township of Wilket, in the County of Waterloo, and Province of Ontario; and from thence through Lot No. 14, in the 14<sup>th</sup> Concession of the township of Blenheim and all the intervening lots therein down through Concessions 13, and 12, to Lot No. 9, in the 11<sup>th</sup> Concession of the township of Blenheim in the County of Oxford, and Province of Ontario. -

This application is made at the urgent request of Messrs William Baldwin, Richard W. Balf, Daniel Wakefield & Co. & Co. of Blenheim who take a lively interest in our fisheries. -

Sir,

19: September 1873.

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank cheque No: 192, for the sum of fifteen dollars. -- Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows: --

1. Mr James Simmonds, of Leslieville - Boat License to fish in Lake Ontario, between Leslieville and Gates gulley, in front of the township of Scarborough, for the remainder of this current year. -- \$ 10.00.

2. Mr Richard Laaffe, Boat License at Burlington Beach, in Lake Ontario, for this current year, copy of License is herewith enclosed. -- \$ 5.00.

Total \$ 15.00x

Hon: Minister  
H. H.  
O'Hara.

I Have the  
John W. Kent  
Overseer.

No Postage 27.

Sir,

19. Sep. 1873.

I have the honor to report for your information that I have just received a letter from Mr. W. Leary, Guardian on Long Point, Lake Erie, stating as follows; "I have to report to you that George Fish of Turkey Point, is building a shaft at Drawing place, Rice Bay." "I went to him yesterday before he commenced, and forbade him at his peril to build or there would be proceedings entered against him". - "He said he did not give a damn, he would build".

This place is situated on the Fishery Reserve, held under license by the Long Pt. Company. - - please instruct me what I am to do in this case, so as to abate the trespass complained of.

Hon. Ministers

Hc. Hc. Hc.

Ottawa,

I Have &c.

John W. Stens. -

o

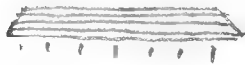
Sent 20<sup>th</sup> to Peter Price, St. Williams, Walsingham and wrote my name on back of each ten dollar bill, - thus! John W. Stens. paid postage 3<sup>d</sup> Registry 2. Mailed this 20. Sep. 1873. -

John W. Stens.



Sunday 21. Sep<sup>r</sup> 1873. - - -

At B. beach to see Mr Corey and J. H. Corey, respecting White fish. Dan McJuryne said she had bought from him. Saw Jonathan Corey, Jack, and Richard<sup>sons</sup>. The latter showed me part of his white fish gill net 1200 yds that was destroyed by some malicious person with sulphuric acid. - no further news on the beach, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 2. p. m. miles 24. Went round by the R. Road accident at Stony Creek pond. - saw where it happened. Met Squire Van Wagner Jos. Lute, George Hall Robt Fletcher, and several others there. It was a sad affair.



Friday 26. Sep: 1873. -

On B. beach, to warn Mr J. H. Corey to attend before the Magistrate at Police Court, - on tomorrow Saturday. - in case of Daniel McJuryne. went out at 9. a. m. came in at 1. p. m. miles 20. St. Bugby. -

Sir,

26. Sep: 1873.

I have the honor to receive your Circular dated Obauna, 20. instant, with reference to your Circular "a previous one" - of the 1<sup>st</sup> instant, relative to the preparation of the Annual Report of this department, &c. &c. &c.

In reply, I beg most respectfully to inform you that I will endeavour to carry out punctually your instructions, but to enable me to do so, correctly, I shall have to close the account up to and ending the 30<sup>th</sup> of this current month. - September.

I Have &c.

Hon: Minister  
&c. &c. &c.  
Obauna.

John H. Kerr  
Oversee.

X Sat: 27. Sep: 1873. ---

at P. Court, Dan McGwynne adjourned case up for trial. 144 B - Game vs. D. H. Corey #1. for attending as witnesses went out at 8. a. m. came in at 10.30 p. m. mile 10. 144 B - #1. -

Sir,

30. September 1873.

I have the honor to enclose to you my acci-  
dental accounts, and the accounts of the two  
guardians on Long point - Lake Erie, - also one of  
from David Mackintosh, Medical Doctor, of  
this city, who analyzed the Coal Oil - found  
floating on the waters in B. bay; as follows;

Account, and Dring for quarters ending	
this 30. day of September. -	\$ 4.40.
1. John W. Kerr - for postages &c.	1.40.
2. John W. Kerr, " Stationary &c.	1.55.
3. John W. Kerr, " Office Rent. -	5.00.
4. Mr W. St. Leary, Guardian Long pt Lake Erie,	60.00.
5. " John Dennis do do -	20.00.
6. David Mackintosh; - Med. Dr. Hamilton	40.00
Total	\$ 202.35,

My official Report will have already given you  
the particulars of the case against Mr Charles  
Williams for - for allowing Coal Oil, Chemi-  
cals &c, and deleterious substances into the  
waters of B. bay, via sub sec: 2, of section 14,  
of the Fisheries Act. -

Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> Oct: 1873.

at Toronto. Whitby. Shoal point, Duffin's Cr.,  
and Port Union. getting up my return, saw  
John Proudfoot, Mr Storey, Sab. Wright, Squire  
Bunting and Statterick. thence Port Union  
went out at 8. a. m. came in at 7. p. m.  
miles 91. By fare 2.30. By Bag 2.50. Board 1.00.

Thursday, 2. Oct: 1873.

at Port Union, Scarborough. Gate gulley, Les-  
lieville, and Toronto Island, saw Pat; Gray  
Dr. Ward; John Ward, & George Dorman, got  
my return from each, went out at  
9. am came in at 6. p. m. miles 30.

# 4  
H & B, <sup>2.00</sup> and boat <sup># 4</sup> 2.00. Saw John Morley and  
Simmonds got their return. --- Boat and bed  
\$1.00 + . . .

Friday 3. Oct: 1873. ---

at Toronto Island. Toronto and home went  
out at 6. a.m. came in at 12 noon. Mile 46.  
Reg. Breakfast 25, Reg fare <sup>#</sup> 1.20. - in pay complaint  
of Meate Works Contractors for injury and damage to his hauling  
ground. ---

6. October 1873.

Sir, With reference to the Detroit River White fish  
sold in the Hamilton Market here annually. --- at the  
request of the Fish dealers of this City, I have the honor  
to apply to you that leave may be granted them to  
sell those Detroit River White fish here, during the close  
season; that is provided they can show me that  
the same have been caught previous to the 19<sup>th</sup> day  
of November. ---

Under Section 11, of the Fishing Act  
lawful excuse might be given in this instance.  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister of  
M & O,  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr

Oct 6 1873

Edgemoor Station  
East Long Wharf  
Jas W. Kerr  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister of M & O  
The Minister

Postage 21<sup>4</sup>



Sir,

6. October 1873.

With reference to the Salmon River and Creek viz. Lyons Creek, Duffins Creek, The Rouge, Miland Creek, and River Credit. - Shall I place Guardians to watch and protect the Salmon therein, during the spawning time this season, which will commence shortly. -

The water is very low in some of the creeks, the entrance therefrom to Lake Ontario is stopped up with sand and gravel which requires immediate attention. -

Hon. Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
John W. Kerr  
O.

Sir,

6. October 1873.

I have the honor to report for your information, that recently 1320 yards of New White fish gill net worth \$6, dollars, the property of Mr. Richard Lauffe a fisherman on B. beach reeled up and ready for setting out in Lake Ontario, and being near his residence was maliciously destroyed by being burned with Sulphuric Acid by some person unknown. -

Upon enquiry no cause can be given for this malicious outrage. -

Hon. Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
John W. Kerr  
O.

Sir.

6, October 1873. -

I have the honor to report for your information that Messrs Daniel McFoyne, James Rofs, Zachariah Corey, and Saml Corey, fishermen on B. beach, were complained of to me - for fishing for, catching, and killing small white fish, in Lake Ontario, on B. beach, on the night of the 4<sup>th</sup> day of August last, with a Herring Seine, in contravention of the Fisheries Act. -

Mr J. H. Corey gave me the information, - the case being three times up, and adjourned the evidence at last proved conclusive. - They were each fined one dollar and costs. - - -

I would strongly recommend to your consideration that Herring Seines be henceforth dispensed with altogether on white fish fishing grounds; Because as in the present case infringements and contraventions of the Fisheries Act, are sure to happen so long as small herring seines are in use. Sometimes no doubt it accidentally happens that small white fish are caught. - - But I greatly fear this is often done intentionally by reckless fishermen.

Larger herring, can at all (times) proper seasons of the year be caught with two inch and a half inches (mesh) herring gill nets, and I trust and sincerely hope the department will promulgate an order to this effect. -

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa,

Monday, 6. October 1873. -

at Bronte and B: beach, getting up my returns of fish and fishing material, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 5. p.m., miles 39. -  
 Ry fare 80<sup>+</sup>, Stage 35<sup>+</sup>, dinner 25. ~~44~~ B 2.00<sup>+</sup>. -  
 140

Tuesday, 7. October 1873.

at St<sup>+</sup> Catharines, Sus: Bridge, Queenston and Niagara, getting up returns, Henry Sheppard paid me 10<sup>+</sup>, license fee for 1872 and 1873. Joseph Gabriel paid me 49. for do. - got John Stand gave me his returns of fish &c for year up to date, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 6. p.m. miles about 60. Ry fare 1.50, dinner tea and bed 7.5<sup>+</sup> Buggy hire from B: B: to Niagara 2.50<sup>+</sup>

Wednesday, 8. Oct: 1873. -

at Niagara, St<sup>+</sup> Catharines and home, got returns from Messrs J. and C. Bolton, J. Cantwell Charles and Alfred Ball, Thomas Elliott, and Tom Allox, went out at 10. a.m. got home at 4. p.m. miles about about 50. Stage fare 50<sup>+</sup>, Buss 25<sup>+</sup>, breakfast and dinner 65<sup>+</sup>, Railway fare 1.30<sup>+</sup>. -  
 140

Friday, 10. October 1873. -

at Jordan, Shelinton, the 30 mile Creek, and out to Grimsby, getting up returns, saw Richard Gilbert, Peter Bath, and Abner J. Probb, got returns from each, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 8. p.m. miles 64. Ry fare 1.80<sup>+</sup>, dinner 25<sup>+</sup>. -  
~~44~~ B: 2.00<sup>+</sup>. - -

Sir,

13. October 1873.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> instant, enquiring what will be the probable cost of placing local fishery guardians on Lyons, Duffins, and Hiland creeks, and Rivers Rouge and Credit, as already recommended to you in my letter of the 6<sup>th</sup> instant, -

In reply, I have the honor to recommend that the following sums be granted for the protection of Salmon in the ~~undesignated~~ mentioned creeks, &c. &c. during the latter part of this month, and the greater part of November next viz<sup>t</sup> -

	£	s.	d.
1. Mr James Storey, Lyons creek. - -	25.	00.	
2. " William Hartwick Duffins Creek, -	40.	00.	
" " do. for an assistant. -	30.	00.	
3. The Rouge. -	25.	00.	
4. The Hiland creek. -	20.	00.	
5. The Credit. -	20.	00.	
Total. -	160.	00.	

Respectfully Submitted,

I Have &amp;c,

John W. Kerr  
Overseer.

The Hon:

Minister of Marine,  
and Fisheries. -Ottawa



My dear Sir,

Will you be so kind and good as to send me the names of the persons who fished for you at Mount Stealy, and York in the Grand River this season; the quantity of fish caught by each seine - how many men fished each seine, - The market value of the fish caught; - The length of each seine in fads, its value. - Boats used and their value. - By letting me have this information, so that I may include the same in my returns for this current year you will greatly oblige me. -

My return I shall have to put in to the Department, by the 1<sup>st</sup> of November next, not later. -

Believe me Yours Obediently,

John W. Kerr  
Fishing Officer,  
Hamilton, Ont.

13. October 1873.

William Russell Lef  
Store Keeper. -  
Mount Stealy. -  
on Grand River.

Postages paid  
114

Sir,

13. October 1873.

I have the honor to receive your communication of the 19. of September last, with instruction to report upon the letter of Mr. J. Simcoe Kerr, dated 7<sup>th</sup> of May last, in which he proposed to lease "Brant's Pond" a portion of B. bay, to the Fisheries department as a nursery for fish - for consideration . . . . .

Mr. Kerr - says! - "I am willing as owner of the pond and surrounding land, to lease the pond for a number of years to the Government, if such a proceeding is thought advisable by your department, and terms can be agreed upon between us." -

With respect to setting this pond apart as a nursery for fish, - I think now, as I have always done since I first received my appointment as Deputy, under your Superintendence, that all the public, and private waters should be so ordered, regulated by orders in Council, and established by the Fisheries department, as to make them as productive of all kinds of fish (the valuable fish to preferred) as the land under careful cultivation is made valuable for growing luxuriant crops of grain of all kinds, green crops, roots &c. &c. &c. - This I consider can be done in all the waters of the Province of Ontario, only give encouragement, and instruct the proprietors of the waters, by appointing competent persons for this purpose. . . . .

In connection with this subject, I believe it is time, when all fishery Officers, should be competent to give instructions in matters of so vast importance to the public. -

For my own part, I shall endeavour to keep pace with the times, in my fish and fisheries knowledge. - - -

This pond, as "Kerry Pond", was set apart for the propagation of fish, under proclamation dated 23. of August 1840. - "and you will I hope call to mind now the causes that then led to this result". -

This pond however, I may here remark, - "Orants of Kerry Pond". is not surrounded by Mr. Kerry land, his statement to this effect, is erroneous. - On the east and north is an open lake, and pond beach, a public thoroughfare, and a public road running through it. - On the south is the open bay, with a bar, between the B. bay, and this pond. - This bar is sometimes covered with water, and sedge and bull rushes grow thereon; but there are always three or four entrances to the pond from the Bay, several yards wide, and many feet deep, through which fish can at pleasure pass, and repass at all times: - - While a Mr. James Milman and a Mr. Gordon own the land on the greater portion of the pond. - on the west side. I say all this knowing the same to be positive facts. - - -

For many reasons, which have come to my knowledge, I cannot recommend "Orants pond" for the purposes referred to, by Mr. W. J. Simcoe Esq., beyond what the Proclamation dated 23. of August 1840, already gives the dept. of control over the waters of the same. -

Wm. Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries,

Ottawa.

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr  
on.

Monday 13. October 1873. -

at Wulfgays, Thomas Jones, Mal: Jones, and P. & John Bates. getting up my returns &c. went out at 8. a. m. came in at 12 $\frac{1}{4}$  - Miles 20. St & B. 2.00. - Received \$5. from Isaac H. Taylor on acct of his fishing license at Finesby. - - -

Tuesday, 14, October 1873.

+ at London, St Thomas and Port Bruce, ~~to~~ get up my fish returns, Ry fare 2.40<sup>¢</sup>, dinner 60<sup>¢</sup>, Ry fare to St Thomas 60<sup>¢</sup>, Stage fare to Port Bruce 75<sup>¢</sup>, and tea and bed 50<sup>¢</sup>, went out at 8. a. m. came in at 9. p. m. Miles 126. - -

Wednesday, 15. October 1873.

at Port Bruce, Port Burwell, Port Roman, Port Royal, St Williams, Turkey point and Long point, went out at 10. a. m. came in at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ . a. m. - Miles 163, - St & Wagon \$1.50, St & Buggy \$3.00, St & B. \$2.50, Boat \$2.00, - dinner and supper \$1.00. - getting up returns. -

Thursday, 16. October 1873. -

at Long point, Turkey point, Hornmandale and Port Dover, went out at 8. a. m. came in at 8. p. m. - Miles 24. - Boat \$1.00, Breakfast, dinner, tea and bed 1.00<sup>¢</sup>, Horse Team 2.50 getting up returns. -

Friday, 17. Oct: 1873. -

at Port Dover, Jarvis and Hamilton, getting returns, went out at 6.30. a. m. came in at 2. p. m. Miles 42, St & B. 1.50. Ry \$1.00. Breakfast and dinner 50<sup>¢</sup>. - -



Sir,

20. Oct: 1873.

I have the honor to report for your information that I visited Long point fisheries - Lake Erie, on the 16<sup>th</sup> instant, where I found two shanties erected on the Ridge, which is situated on the Main Rice bay shore between the outer and the inner bay's (Rice bays) Lake Erie. -- One of these Shanties or Houses is 45 ft long by 20 ft wide; this is built on a scow which is resting upon a portion of the Ridge and in the bottom of the water connected with this ridge of land and is in Rice bay. -- An anchor fastened to the scow, and carried on and deposited on the Ridge (pretending designedly) to show that the scow is only anchored there (which it is not, and so endeavours to outwit, and set the Fisheries department, and its laws &c. at defiance, by assuming that this Shanty is on the scow in navigable waters. -- after the scow was placed there the shanty was built upon it. --

This Shanty belongs to Charles Irish and James Secord of Charlestown, County of Norfolk. -- This Shanty has been erected <sup>there</sup> for the ostensible purpose of harbouring, and accommodating persons who have combined together against the Long point Company - the Lessees of the Fisheries, and to build on the Fishery Reserve the only land there so as to be in close proximity to the Long point Company's property on which they go, and shoot wild ducks. --

I found men there from ~~Trinidad~~ and men there from Anticosti. I was infd

2  
1

they sell whiskey and other liquors there, without a license. -- I notified Charles Irish, personally that he must move away from there, he being a trespasser on the fishing reserve. -- as it was only intended that this ridge should be occupied for fishing purposes and by licensed fishermen in pursuit of their calling. --

The place where this house is erected on the scow, which is on the land ridge is about one quarter of a mile north of the Long Point Company's boundary line; is on what is called disputed property, and is now claimed by this Company, as their property. -- By the shooting community it is called public property, where they say, they have a perfect right, still to go, and do just as they please. -- However, as this ridge is without the boundary line of the Long Pt<sub>3</sub> Company's property; it may safely be said to belong to the Fishing Reserve, now held by them under lease from the Fisheries department, this is a fact, that cannot be denied nor gainsaid. --

Then just beside this house on the scow &c, &c, there is another small house 16 ft<sub>3</sub> long, by 8 ft<sub>2</sub> wide, the property of George Irish, father of Charles Irish, of Turkey Point, this is erected upon two small scows, placed on the aforesaid land ridge: This House is placed there for a similar purpose to that of the other house. --

I did not see George Irish, when I called there, as he was away shooting, I was accompanied there by Mr. W. Leary.

3

Steward to the Long Point Company, and who acts as Guardian for me over the Fisheries there. There were four sail boats at anchor in Little Rice Bay, where I got there, and on my way, I saw eight punts with men in them from these shanties, and the sail boats; out shooting, and there was a sail boat in Big Rice Bay, belonging to Mr. Lowe of Nantucket, a dummy who was accompanied by a Mr. Gamble, they were shooting on the Long Point Coy's property. Six men were in the shanty at breakfast, owned by Mr. B. Charles Fish, and James Second. It was then 10 o'clock, a.m., and from the reports of guns I heard in different places there must have been at least a dozen more persons than I saw. -

Mr. John D. Mackenzie, the Secretary of the Long Point Coy. whom I met at Long Pt. that morning on my arrival there drew my attention to this matter, so that I might go up there make enquiries and report to you particulars. -

On the 12. of April last, I reported to you that Mr. Isaac Becker, and Saul Becker of Walsingham, had built a house on the Fishery Reserve of two chairs on Little Rice Bay, Long Pt. Lake Erie, to which I again beg to draw your attention, because this house still remains there. -

and on the 19. of September last, I reported to you that George Fish, had



built or was then building the shanty to which I again beg to draw your attention in the preceding part of this report. . . .

The land ridge at these two shanties is about two chains wide and it divides Little Rice bay, from Big Rice bay. . . . a beaten roadway over which shooting punts are being continually hauled is very plain and observable.

I regret to say; that I found there <sup>Mr</sup> Snook, a licensed fisherman from Turkey Pt who, by his presence there encouraged the thing. . . . He had been out shooting before I got there, and shot four ducks (red heads) and was returned for breakfast.

I think it very wrong for <sup>Mr</sup> Snook to do this, because he had permission from the Long Pt Company to go there and fish on their licensed fisheries; provided he adhered to the Rules and regulations of the Long Pt Coy. . . . He had with him white fish gill nets, but his ostensible purpose there was to shoot wild ducks. He was accompanied by two other men, whom he took over there with him the previous evening in his sail boat, to shoot ducks, from the main land at Turkey point. . . .

You have now before you the particulars of these trespasses, and I would again respectfully ask you to impart to me instruction in these respective cases. . . .

I Consulted with Mr John S. Mackenzie the Secretary; we came to the conclusion to act with caution; and do nothing.



without your instruction in the several cases. ---

Mr Mackenzie, does not wish that the Company's employees should act or be called on to act as prosecutors in the cases, and this he says he does under advice from Colonel David Lindsay - the Long Point Company's Solicitor, - all of which is respectfully submitted.

Hon. Ministers,  
 &c. &c. &c.  
 Ottawa.

I Have &c  
 John W Kerr.  
Douglas

Tuesday, 21. October 1873. ---

at Hamilton, thence to Rymal, and Port Dover, to get up returns, went out at 8. a. m. came in at 9. p. m. miles 40. Railway fare 1. Horse and buggy 3.00. dinner tea and bed 75¢. ---

Wednesday, 22. October 1873. -

at Dover, Antioke, Selkirk, Sandusky, Rainham, Dunville and Port Maitland, getting up my returns, and getting license money. - went out at 9. a. m. came in 12. miles 56. - Team \$5. Stage 50¢ Breakfast dinner tea and bed 1.00¢. - Boat 1.50. ---

Thursday, 23. Oct: 1873. ---

at Dunville, Port Colborne, and Port Erie S. Bridge and Hamilton, getting up returns, went out at 8. a. m. came in at 11. p. m. miles 108. Ry fare 4.20. Breakfast, dinner and tea 75¢. ---

Sir,

20. Oct: 1873.

With reference to the following paragraph in your letter to me of the 14, instant, thus: "It is stated in his letter that the water called 'Orant Pond' - is already set apart under the Fisheries Act, for fish breeding purposes, but it is incapable of protection." The principal intention of the reference was to elicit some explanation on this point - as the Department know of no reason why, the setting apart of this more than any other water is futile. - - -

I have the honor to report that I look upon this language of Mr Kerr here quoted, as futile trifling, and unhelpful, emanating as it does from an unreliable source. - - - And as to its being incapable of protection. Why! this is all boosh! - Because to my certain knowledge not one single fisherman, has ever gone there, and only once have I found a small piece of pike gill net set therein "a farmer's net", since your proclamation was issued setting it apart, &c. &c. &c., although strenuous exertions I was told were used since from time to time by Mr H. J. Simcoe Kerr, to prevail on them to fish there. - Not even Benja Joice nor his boys; could be induced to fish any more there upon his invitation. - It is now to me a matter of surprise that Mr Kerr never made a report to me of any person fishing (there) in "Orant Pond" - altho I meet him and converse with him very frequently. - - -

Mr Kerr to use a common phrase

is now on his last legs, and his letter is merely an attempt to raise the wind, to get a money consideration from the Fishery department, if he found you or I silly or simple to help him with his nefarious purposes. - In his Indian cunning he even offered myself a consideration; if I would assist him by a report favourable to this attempt of his at Black-mailing. -

But then Mr Kerr, is not accountable for any bad or good thing he does, as I may candidly tell you he is hardly ever sober. -

He has squandered away all his property, he shortly will have nothing left. - That small portion of about 25 Acres of the "Brant farm" now claimed as owned by him, and whereon he resides is mortgaged for double its value, I say all this advisedly, because I know it is so. -

I did not wish in my first report to come out so openly, as I do now, in this. -

But you will please observe that I concluded my report of the 13, instant, by stating that for many reasons which have come to my knowledge, I could not recommend Mr Kerr's application to be adhered to. -

I Have &c,  
John W Kerr  
a.

Hon: Minister  
of H. &  
Mawra.

Sir

24. October 1873. -

I have the honor to send you herewith cheque No. 245, for the sum of eighteen dollars, - This amount you will be pleased to apply as follows: Viz

1. Mrs Susie Edsall, of Peacocks Point, a License to fish in Lake Erie, this current year, see copy of same herewith. - - - \$ 3.00¢ -

2. Mr. Abram Wardell, of Walpole, a License to fish in Lake Erie, this current year, near Sandusky Creek. - - - 5.00¢

3. Messrs. Darius Swarth, and Louis Stelkey, a license to fish in Lake Erie, at Rainham for this current year, a copy of same is herewith. - - - 10.00¢

Total, \$ 18.00¢.

I also send you a copy of Mr. William Laws, license to fish in Lake Erie, near Port Dover. Will you please send me original. His money will be sent shortly. - - -

I Have &c.

Hon. Minister  
&c. &c. &c.  
Ottawa,

John W. Kerr,  
Referee.

P.S. also Mr. [unclear]  
of Rainham.



Sir.

27, October 1873. -

I have the honor to apply to you for your Boat Licenses to fish, White fish gill nets, in Lake, during this current year. - as per Copies of Licenses herewith sent. -

1. Messrs. John Law, and James Hargie.
2. Timothy Stone & Co.
3. Mr Isaac Culp.
4. " George Macdonald. -

I will send you the License fee of each shortly. -

I Have &c

Hon. Minister,  
 &c. &c. &c.  
 Ottawa.

John W. Kerr.  
 O.

Sunday, 26, October 1873. -

at St. Catharines, found all the fishermen there had been out lifting their morning gill nets, owing to a storm coming up. Saw Jonathan Gray, David and Thomas Armstrong, David Gitch and son, heard Jack Waite, Dick Saffo, Alex Rolla, Duncan McMillan, Dan McFoyne had been out and fished. talked to them about it, went out at 9, came in at 2. P.M. Mile 24, 174 B. 2.50.

Reasoned with and admonished them for fishing up. -

My dear Sir,

It has been reported to me that you have been hand fishing in Lake Erie, near Bolton Ditch, during this current year, and where I have learned you caught a quantity of white fish. . . .

Our fishing laws are very strict, as you will perceive by the enclosed order in Council, dated the 23. of August 1870. -

Please send me a description of the place you fish in; giving me the number of the lot, in part of which you hand, the boundary of the same, the township, Conception and County &c. and I shall procure for you a License; But you will require to send me five dollars, which is the amount I shall have to charge you, for this current year. -

Of course, I do all this, so as to give you an opportunity of getting up a good rig, for next year. -

As soon as you get your License no person can fish on your ground without your consent. -

I shall send you a copy of the Fisheries Act, on hearing from you. -

A friend of yours at Dunville, speaks highly of you, but others complained of you. -

Believe me,

Yrs Respectfully,

John W. Kerr

M. A.

Hamilton Ont.

27. Oct. 1873.

Isaac Dickson Esq

P. Master

Low Bank R. Office,

Bolton Ditch,

Lake Erie. -

Received  
27 Oct 1873  
John W. Kerr

Sir,

31. Oct. 1873.

I have the honor to comply with in part with your Circular bearing date 20. of September last, by sending herewith the Annual Fishing Statistics of my division - My Report will follow the enclosed for return, on tomorrow. -

17. Nov: 1873.

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to find herewith, twenty dollars, this is on account of services rendered by you as Guardian on Long Point, being from the outlet to the Light House for this current year. - -

I did not go down to Ottawa, a letter being here on my arrival, advising me to defer my visit until some time later in the year. - Don't forget the Big ducks, if opportunity offers.

Yours sincerely,  
John W. Steer  
Ranger.

Mr John Dennis -  
Guardian.  
Long Point, Port Rowan.

P.S. - I shall be at Port Rowan on tomorrow night. Smokey it appears is fishing on George Stead's fishing ground. - So he must abide the consequences. - Remember me kindly to the Steward. I expressed the ducks to Mr. Whitaker, Monday afternoon on my arrival here. - all well here

Yrs &c.  
John W. Steer

Postages 3c  
Registered 2c



Sir.

31. October 1873. -

In obedience to your Circular to me addressed bearing date the 20<sup>th</sup> day of September last, requiring me to prepare without delay the usual Fishery Statistics of my division and forward them to the Department at Ottawa, by the 1<sup>st</sup> of November at latest. -

And! - - Send at once same time a general report "of the years business, together with any suggestions which the practical experience of the wants of the Division under your charge should enable you to make". - Your particular attention to this matter is requested. -

I have the honor to fulfil your instructions by sending you herewith five forms containing the Fishery Statistics of my division, which extends from Whitby Harbour, Lake Ontario, to Port Galboff, on Lake Erie, up to and ending the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September last, which I hope you will find satisfactory. - - I feel much pleasure in reporting to you, that during this current season, several of our fishermen have had successful takes of Superior White fish, better in quality and size, surpassing everything of this kind of fish caught in Lake Ontario, during the last thirty years. - - Pickeral, too, of a superior sized class of fish, caught in small quantities with six inches mesh trout net (gill) have made their appearance this season in Lake Ontario near M<sup>rs</sup>. beach, attracting my attention. - - And such magnificent white fish - caught with gill nets in Lake Ontario, between Simsbury, and Wyndora during the current season. When exhibited for sale daily in the Hamilton market, were instantly bought up at high prices, being the admiration of those persons who beheld them. - They varied from 5 to 12. pounds each fish. - Blue back herrings - Choice fish have been sold for 1/1 per dozen. - -



These incidents counsel and admonish me to recommend to you as my fervent belief that the time has arrived when herring hauling seines should be altogether dispensed with. - And Herring gill nets of regulated sized meshes should be established by the Fishery department in their stead, and with respect to white fish hauling seines except in certain localities; I beg most respectfully to impress upon your mind the great necessity there is of establishing a fixed rules and regulations, for this kind of net independent of those already in force and operation. - Our Lake waters abound with splendid Wh: fish, Trout, herring, pickerel, muskellunge &c. &c. I consider only such nets should henceforth be used by our fishermen, as would catch only the choice fish. - Small fish! - either white fish or herring no matter how legally caught, never pay fisherman for their outlay and labour. - Neither do the public have their attention attracted to small fish so quickly, as it is to splendid large fish. -

I say all this, well knowing as I do, from personal past experience, that the yearly increasing wealth of our Lake fisheries is at present attracting the attention of the public, both of rich and poor, who when they go to the markets desire at all times to purchase the best quality and most valuable kind of fish the market supplies, only good fish of marketable size will be caught in regulated herring gill nets. While seines do catch and destroy when fished in certain localities very many young fish not really marketable. -

Trout were not numerously caught in Lake Ontario, in my division this season, the fish swam high, during the summer season not on the bottom, where the gill nets were set, hence the cause of it. -

But those fish caught were of large size, excellent quality, and brought remunerative prices. . . .

At Turkey point, Lake Erie, the fishing was this season as usual very good. . . . pickered of vast size and in numerous quantities being caught in paying hauls by our licensed fishermen there. . . . Muskinonge, too a superior fish were more numerously caught and in Long point this season than last; very many of the latter ranging above 40 pounds weight, and of the former as high as 16 pounds each. . . .

At Dunville, in the Grand River, the fishing this season was splendid, the take surpassing last year's as shown by the returns herewith. . . . This place too, has become a favorite resort for anglers from Buffalo, and Batavia, N.Y., States, St. Catharines, Hamilton &c. &c.

I consider it advisable that special regulations should be fixed by the Department for such places and where foreigners frequent to fish, and amuse themselves. . . . Our licensed fishermen at Dunville make a remunerative thing of it, by supplying boats at \$2, per day, to anglers who go there. . . .

I shall make a special and separate report to you, and which the Dunville and Grand River fisheries require I should. . . .

In the discharge of my duty, as Referee, I have been obliged to fine several fishermen, in my division this year, for contravention of the Fisheries Act. . . . But I have done so in a mild moderate and determined way, hoping by reasoning with them, whom I convicted, that in doing so, I was studying their personal interest, which they had to acknowledge, was the view all things considered, they had ultimately arrived at themselves. . . .

At B. beach, the fishermen this season seem to be contented and happy. . . . Only one contravention

of the Fisheries Act being committed there this season as already reported to you. ---

I do not desire here to give the names of those fishermen who have been convicted and fined: my Reports sent you at the time of the occurrences, will be found I hope sufficient. --- I consider good results will follow these convictions, ---

I was obliged to proceed this season against the Oil Refineries, and Park factory situated on B. Bay in the township of Barton, which is immediately without this City limits. "For allowing deleterious substances &c. &c. to pass from their Establishments into the waters of the Bay, thereby injuring the fisheries and fish therein. --- The desired result has been satisfactorily accomplished to some extent altho strange to say; by the advice of Counsel, the Park factory and one of the Oil Refinery Proprietors have appeared to the December Quarter Session to be held --- The cases were very glaring so that I have no fears for the result. ---

The show of the Salmon in Duffins Creek, from which I have just had a report is most satisfactory. --- During this current year I have heard of two Salmon been caught in White fish Series. --- One was caught at the Frenchman's Bay, and the other at Toronto Island - Lake Ont., which are good indication of the Salmon becoming more numerous. ---

Application have been made to me to have fish ways placed in the mill dams of Smiths Creek or Mill with, the Grand River, and the other Creek, so as to allow the fish to come up the stream, and become a benefit to the public. I have had your sanction and instruction to have this carried into effect, and it



shall be attended to shortly. -

On Lake Erie, the fall white fish gill net fishing had not commenced, when I was there on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> instant so that in this instance I only return men and material but no fish caught. - -

With your sanction and approval, I have issued 80. licenses, for fishing, in my division this season amounting to \$754. dollars, which I sent the department; Besides other licenses the amounts of which I will get and send you shortly. -

Our speckled trout streams and ponds indeed require to be more closely looked after, so as to protect them from the ravages of destruction people and to this end I would beg most respectfully to direct your attention. - -

The speckled trout Breeding Establishments at Erin Village, in the township of Erin, and County of Wellington, under the ownership of Mr. Wellington Hull, may be put down as containing up to this date, five small ponds, with 2000 parent fish therein; and two thousand five hundred small fish therein, besides 500 eggs or ova, laid down in hatching troughs. - - -

Then there is Mr. George A. Lacey, - of Homedale Millsburg, in the same township (Erin) and County, who has 1000 parent fish, in his ponds besides several thousand young fish of last years hatching out. - - Mr. Lacey expects to lay down 150,000. eggs or ova this season; I regret to tell you Mr. Lacey met with a serious loss, last spring when 20,000 of his choice fish escaped, by his dam giving way being swept away, by a freshet. - -

I cannot close this report without drawing your attention to the injury done to Mr. Patrick Gray, one of our licensed fishermen on Toronto Island, by the Water Works Commissioners, and their Contractors of the City of Toronto, who have commenced this season to erect water



works on the Fishery Reserve, of the Island, and have dredged out and put in a main pipe in his licensed fishing ground, through which it is proposed to bring the water from the Filtering basin, to supply the inhabitants of the City of Toronto with water, thereby depriving and obstructing his fishery during this season, which I may here observe is a serious loss and damage to Mr. Gray, and to which I beg most respectfully to draw your attention.

While I admit the undoubted right of the Water Works Commissioners to the Island, I should say they have no right to the Fishery Reserve nor to the Fisheries, so as to impose an injury on the Licensee without making him a remuneration equal to the loss and damage inflicted.

On the whole I consider the take this season up to the 30<sup>th</sup> of September last, will compare favourably with the take of the previous year so far as it has gone, both in quantity and quality of the fish caught, and the tendency still is an increase annually thereby becoming more remunerative to those hardy sons of toil, the fishermen of my division. . . .

In closing my report for this season, I may say; that contentment with very few exceptions pervades the minds of all the fishermen of my district. - I enjoy and stand on good terms with so far as I have the opportunity of knowing and judging which to me is a cause of much satisfaction. . . .

All of which is most respectfully  
Submitted.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries. -

Thomas

I Have &c. &c.

John W. Barry  
oversee.

Thursday, 6. Nov: 1873. - -

at Jarvis, Port Dover, Turkey and Long points,  
to enquire about the Fisheries, &c, went out at 3.  
p.m. came in at 2. a.m. Miles about 72, \$49 B. 1.50  
Ry fare \$1.00, \$49 B. to Turkey point, \$4, Boat \$3. -  
Supper 25. - See mem: book for particulars

Friday, 7. Nov: 1873. -

at Long point, - Board \$1.00, for boatman  
\$1.00, See mem: book for other charges. &c, Miles 10.

Sat: 8. Nov: 1873. -

at Long point, Ports Ryerse and Dover. -  
Board \$2.00, Boat \$2.00, Team <sup>\$</sup>2.50, went out  
at 11. p.m. came in at 5. a.m. Miles about 24. -

Sunday, 9. Nov: 1873. -

all day in Port Dover. - Board \$1.00. -

Monday 10. Nov: 1873. -

at Dover, Jarvis and Hamilton, Team \$2.50.  
Ry fare \$1.00, Breakfast 25¢, Bed 25¢.  
supper charges 2.90. - Miles 42, 6.90

Tuesday, 14. Nov: 1873. -

at B. beach to make enquire about fish-  
ing in B. bay, &c, went out at 9. a.m.  
came in at 5. p.m. - Miles about 30. - - -  
\$49 B. 2.50, dinner 50¢

Postage <sup>4</sup>12.

Write. 14. Nov: 1873. -

" Mr. P. Grey - Toronto Island. -

" " Thomas Elliott - Niagara,

" " Joseph Mann. P. Union. -

" " Wm. Hartwick Druggists Creek

Monday, 17. Nov: 1873. -

At Fred's Morrisons at the Heights, to give out spearing licenses Nicholas Graley, Jos: Amos, J. B. Smith and John Lang, paid me one dollar each. - went out at 6. p.m. came in at 10. p.m. Miles 10. Horse and buggy <sup>\$</sup>2.50

private and confidential

My dear Sir. - Hamilton. - 18. November 1873.

As close season for white fish, is between the 19. November, and the 1<sup>st</sup> of December, will you be pleased to govern yourself accordingly. - And please apprise Mr. Thomas Joyce. Don't break the law, nor set out your white fish gill nets, as there is a person close at hand watching you; and I shall be round myself; Remember me kindly to Mr. Ingledew. Now please be guided by my advice, and the law.

Yrs Sincerely,

John W. Kerr.

Ouellet.

Mr. Ingledew.  
Toronto P. Office.

Tuesday, 18. Nov: 1873. -

at Jarvis, Simcoe, Port Ryerse, and Port Dover. George Hearn paid me \$5. Rent for 1873. he declined to prosecute Mr. Snook for setting his gill nets once on his ground. - Went out at 3. p.m. came in at 10. p.m. Miles about 64. - H & B, 3.00, Tea 50, Bed 25. Ry fare. - 1.50. -

My dear Sir,

Close season, for white fish, is between the 19. of November, and the 1<sup>st</sup> of December. Be pleased to govern yourself accordingly. -

Please send me a return of all the different fish caught on your fishing, this season by you and your friends - quantity of gill nets fished, value of Boat, -

Yours sincerely,

John W. Kerr

Overseer.

Isaac H. Taylor Esq  
He. He. He.

Grimby P. Office.

My dear Sir,

Will you be so good as to send me your license fee, five dollars, for this current season. - Also the number of fish caught by yourself. The quantity of gill net, value of Boat. The quantity of net used by Saml. Kinsley, fish caught, and please get from him \$5, also for me, and if your brother James has nets and fished with you, he will have to pay \$5 also. -

Please let me have all the particulars and money here called for.

George Howard Esq  
Hager'sville

Yours sincerely  
John W. Kerr  
Overseer

18. Nov 1873.



"Confidential" -

My dear Sir.

Close season for White fish, is from the 19<sup>th</sup> of November, until the 1<sup>st</sup> of December next, Will you be pleased to see if any fresh White fish are being exhibited for sale by the fish dealers in Toronto, and please seize the same. ---

please refer to Sub Section 2, of Section 11, of the Fisheries Act; I have been informed that Barrels of fresh White fish will be brought in to Toronto by the Northern Railway, will you be pleased to look out for, and seize them also. ---  
and oblige

Yours Sincerely,  
John W. Kerr,  
Fishing Officer.

Hamilton, Ontario.

21, November 1873. -

Sergeant Major  
Cummer's,  
Police Force,  
Toronto.

P.S. - Acquaint Mr Macnab and your Chief and after you make the seizures, Telegraph me. -  
John W. Kerr,  
F. Officer.

Confidential,

My dear Sir,

Close season for white fish, is from the 19. of Nov: to the 1<sup>st</sup> of December next.

Will you be pleased to get Constable John Dunne, to seize all fresh white fish, he may find exhibited for sale in the Brantford Market by the fish dealers and others. - please refer to Rule Section 2, of Section 11, of the Fisheries Act. -

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr

Fishery Officer,  
Hamilton, Onto.

21, Nov: 1873. -

Wm. Mathews Esq  
Mayor of  
Brantford,

Wednesday, 19, Nov: 1873.

at Home, Hanticoke, Sandusky, Stony Creek,  
Recebeck point, Stones point, and Rainham  
Wm Law paid me \$4, John Law 3<sup>#</sup>, George Held  
\$5, Isaac Culp 5<sup>#</sup>, - thence on to Fumville,  
Team \$5<sup>#</sup>, Stage 50<sup>#</sup>, breakfast dinner tea  
and bed \$1.00 & miles about 40. -

Thursday, 20, Nov: 1873. -

at Fumville, Caledonia and Home. -  
By fare \$1.50 & Breakfast &c, 40 &  
Miles

Sir,

21. November 1873.

I have the honor to send you here =  
with, Bank cheque No: 29, for the sum of  
Twenty Nine dollars. - -

Will you be pleased to apply the  
same for this current year as follows: -

1. Mr George Stearns, License to fish in Lake Erie  
near Fishers Creek, on a flat \$ 5.00,
  2. William Law, License to fish in Lake Erie  
near Port Dover, on a flat 4.00
  3. John Law & boy, License to fish in Lake Erie  
near Port Dover, on a flat 3.00,
  4. Isaac Culp, License to fish in Lake Erie,  
at Rainham, in full. - 5.00,
  5. George Held & boy - License to fish in Lake  
Erie, at Hore's bay, Rainham in full. 3.00,
  6. Isaac Michener, License to fish in Lake Erie,  
at Bolton ditch. - - - 5.00,
  7. Joseph Amos, and three others, License  
to spear Herrings in B. bay, \$1 each. - 4.00
- Total \$ 29.00

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
The Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c,  
John H. Kent  
or,

Mailed Receipts for Quarterly Salary this 30. of  
Nov: 73. also copy of license for permission to spear  
for twenty three persons, whose names are in appli-  
cation dated 27<sup>th</sup> of Nov: wrote S. R. Bauser.  
Sent licenses to Geo. Held & Abraham Moore  
Rainham Co the Isaac Michener. P. M.  
don't know P. Office - wrote to John Wad-  
worth and David Hodges, and to Henry  
Sheppard & fishermen Queenston. On to

"Immediate".

My dear Thompson. —

Will you be pleased to get from Adams and Kortege the quantity and description of fish caught by each of them for me, up to the present time, since I was there in October in pounds weight, and the market value. — If they are done fishing please send it to me at once. —

Yrs truly  
John W. Kers

Capt<sup>m</sup> Thomas Thompson. —  
Port Bruce, Onto.

Hamilton, Onto.

21. Nov: 1873. —

My dear Sir,

Close season for white fish, is from the 19. November, to the 1<sup>st</sup> of December next. —

Will you be pleased to serve all fresh white fish exhibited for sale in St. Catharines during this close season. — Please refer to Sub Section No: 2, of Section 11. of the Fishers act, and oblige,

Yrs respectfully  
John W. Kers

2. Nov: 1873  
Hamilton, Onto.

21. Nov: 1873

Chief Constable,  
Cummings,  
St. Catharines.



Saturday 22, Nov: 1873. -

at the Heights, and out with the spears  
Fred, Kerr and myself went in Boat from  
the Wharfage in my boat. - 544 B.  $\frac{4}{10}$  2.50 to  
Jages and the Heights. - to Fred & Kerr  $\frac{4}{10}$  1.50. -  
Miles about 15. - - Collected license fees. - - -

Monday, 24 Nov: 1873.

at B. Heights out on the Bay Collecting fees of  
one dollar for spearing herring, went out at 5 p.m.  
came in at 12. midn. ht. Horse and Buggy  $\frac{4}{10}$  2.00. -  
Boatman 1.00: - miles about 10. -

Tuesday, 25, November 1873. - -

at B. Heights out on the Bay, getting in  
spearing fees, went out at 5. p.m. came in  
12. a.m. ~~came in~~ miles about 16. Horse and  
buggy 2.00, Boatman  $\frac{4}{10}$  2.00. - - -

Wednesday 26, Nov: 1873. - - -

at B. Heights out in the Bay, getting spearing  
fees, went out at 5. p.m. came in at 1. a.m.  
miles 18. Horse & Buggy  $\frac{4}{10}$  2.00, Boatman  $\frac{4}{10}$  2.00,  
all regulars. - - - Thence in the morning  
in my boat as far as Simon Peter Stipe.  
Christopher Case rowing me down for which I  
gave him a dollar. Horse and Buggy to the City  
and from Stipe home  $\frac{4}{10}$  2. we ~~to~~ out at 8. a.m.  
came in at 3. p.m. Miles about 12. - -

Thursday 9, Dec: 1873. - - - -

at B. Bay. found all regulars here of persons  
betting nets in front of John Dyne, through the  
ice in the Bay. went out at 6. a.m. -  
came in at 3. p.m. miles about 26. Horse  
and buggy and toll  $\frac{4}{10}$  2.50. - Breakfast  
and dinner  $\frac{4}{10}$  1.00. -

Sir,

27 Nov: 1873,

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank  
Cheque No: 36, for twenty three dollars, which you will be  
pleased to apply for Herring and Pike spearing in  
Burlington bay, from the 20<sup>th</sup> of November 1873, until the  
31<sup>st</sup> of March, next; as follows: -

1. William Staples - License to Spear. -		\$ 1.00.
2. William Ashbaugh. -	do. -	1.00.
3. John Rambarger. -	"	1.00.
4. Samuel Smoake. -	"	1.00.
5. James Knight. -	"	1.00.
6. Thomas Dever. -	"	1.00.
7. William Bottrell. -	"	1.00.
8. Harvey D. Rule. -	"	1.00.
9. Wm Hopkins. -	"	1.00.
10. Columbus Hopkins. -	"	1.00.
11. Daniel Lyons. -	"	1.00.
12. Benj. Brickmore. -	"	1.00.
13. Jacob Orr. -	"	1.00.
14. Thomas Oliver. -	"	1.00.
15. John Yakes. -	"	1.00.
16. Thomas Tyson. -	"	1.00.
17. Luke Thompson. -	"	1.00.
18. Wm. Rasher. -	"	1.00.
19. John Lyons. -	"	1.00.
20. Robert Rasher. -	"	1.00.
21. David Harris. -	"	1.00.
22. David Stock. -	"	1.00.
23. Wm. Stock. -	"	1.00.

Total, \$ 23.00.

Rev. Minutes of  
Marine and Fisheries  
Commission,

I Have No  
John W. Kerr  
Manager.

Wednesday, 10. December 1873.  
 at Mr. W<sup>m</sup> Jones and out in the Bay in  
 front of John Dyer grappling for gill nets  
 supposed to be set there, went out at 9.  
 A.M., came in at 3. P.M., Miles 20. Horse  
 and buggy <sup>#</sup>2.00, Boatman <sup>#</sup>1.00. ---

Monday 22. Dec 1873. - and 23. Dec  
 at Toronto, Kingston, Prescott, and Ottawa.  
 to see the New Minister, and Mr. Whitcher on  
 certain matters connected with the fisheries,  
 went out at 8. A.M., came in at 11.30 A.M.,  
 the following day. - Miles 326. - Ry fare <sup>#</sup>10.80.  
 H & Sleigh <sup>#</sup>2.50, Dinner 50, tea 50, Breakfast 50,  
 dinner 50, of tea 50 of Bed 25, - 16.05

Wednesday 24. Dec 1873. - & 25 Dec  
 at Ottawa, thence to Prescott, Toronto, and  
 home, Sleigh <sup>#</sup>1.50, Ry fare to Prescott & Toronto  
 including sleeping car 10. - Ry fare to Hamilton,  
<sup>#</sup>1.30. Cab home <sup>#</sup>1.50, tea 50, Breakfast 50,  
 dinner 50, Miles 326. -

Friday, 26 Dec: 1873. =.  
 at Ingersoll to enquire about the killing  
 of speckled trout, &c, went out at 8.  
 A.M., came in 5. P.M. Miles 114. H & Ry 1.50.  
 Ry fare <sup>#</sup>3.70. - dinner 40. - -

Sunday, 28. Dec 1873.  
 at Dundas Marsh, and St. Michael's, went  
 out at 7. A.M., came in 2. P.M. Miles  
 14. H & Sleigh <sup>#</sup>2.50. -

Tuesday, 30. December 1873. -

at Toronto, Port Union and Duffins Creek, to see Moon and Starbuck, went out at 8. a.m.

came in at 7.30, p.m. miles 93. - 14¢ Buggy

2.00. Ry fare 2.80, dinner tea and bed \$1.00 -

Wednesday, 31. December 1873. -

at Toronto, and home, Ry fare 1.30, Breakfast,

25¢ went out 7. a.m. came in at 11. a.m. -

miles 44. -

Postage Omitted	4	
	75	
	1.21	
	196	Total

Add Ry rent to 31. Dec's, 2.00 in advance to end of 1874. - -

Saturday, January 3. - 1874. - -

At B. beach, to attend a meeting of the fishermen, respecting the beach being given to the Corporation of Hamilton, got particulars of the different holdings from H. H. Corey. Put the same in my Annual Report, went out at 2, p.m. came in at 7, p.m. miles 24, Horse and buggy 2.50, - -

Sunday, 12. January 1874. - -

At Mr. W. J. J. To give him his license, there to the City and home. - went out at 9. a.m. - came in at 3. p.m. miles 16. - Horse and buggy 2.50.

Friday, 16. January 1874. - -

At B. beach, with a petition for H. H. Corey to be signed, and presented to the Warden and Council of Wentworth about the City of Hamilton getting the beach, went out at 9. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. miles 26. - Horse and buggy 2.50.



Sir,

2. January 1874.

I have the honor to send you my account and diary, for the quarter ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 1873, also petty and incidental expenses incurred during the same period, as follows:

Account and diary for the quarter ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 1873. - 180. 40.

Voucher No: 1. - Fred<sup>W</sup> Kerr, - Mountman. - 15.00.

" " 2. - John W. Kerr, Office Rent. - 5.00.

" " 3. - John W. Kerr, Postages. - 3.96,

" " 4. - John W. Kerr, Stationery. - 2.25

" " 5. - John W. Kerr Telegrams, - 3.50

Total. - \$ 210.11

I find on putting up my diary that I have travelled two thousand two hundred and fifty five miles, during the quarter, which is 84 per mile including everything. - The roads were in such a bad state, otherwise travelling would be much less, altho I have had to go twice over a large portion of my district to get up my statistics. - I hope you will find the document herewith correct. - -

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries  
Ottawa. -

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr  
Deputy

Sir.

6. January 1874,

I have the honor to send you the statistic or tabular returns of my district complete for the year ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 1873, Will send my report on tomorrow,

I have &c,

Hon. Minister

&c. &c. &c.

Maua.

John W. Kero  
Dunfermline.

## Report - Continued . . . .

Sir,

31. December 1873.

In my annual report to you dated 31. of October last, I stated: The show of Salmon in Duffin's Creek, is most satisfactory. -

I have now the honor to continue my report and give you the particulars of the Salmon in detail. -

## The Salmon in Duffin's Creek. - . . .

Mr. William Hartick, the Guardian reports that on the 15<sup>th</sup> of October last, the first Salmon, three in number made their appearance in Duffin's Creek, and commenced their beds on the rapids below the Grand Trunk Railway Bridge. - On Monday the 20<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> of October, there was a storm of rain with a heavy east wind; "what is called Salmon weather". This storm formed a bar of sand and gravel on the beach, at the mouth of the creek, stopped the mouth or entrance to the Creek, so that no more Salmon could enter it from the Lake. - On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October, Mr. Hartick, and his hired man went down to the Lake and opened the mouth of the creek, so that the water therefrom ran freely into the waters of the Lake "Ontario". - The next day, the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October, the water from recent rains having risen in the Creek, the Salmon about 30 in number came up and were observable on the rapids in the creek, as far up as Mr. Moses Smith's dam. - On the 24<sup>th</sup> of October, ten more <sup>fresh</sup> Salmon made their appearance in the creek and commenced working on the beds or Riddles. -

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of Oct, a son of Mr. Samuel Wilmot, who is the Officer in charge of the Fish Breeding Establishment of the Department, in Wilmot Creek, Newcastle, Province of Ontario, by instruction from his father visited Duffin's Creek and accompanied by Mr. Hartick they went up and down both sides of the stream from the dam to

Gager Mill, where they counted twenty Salmon beds. —  
 Mr Wilburtson has calculated there were then upwards of  
 forty Salmon, parent fish in the creek, and all were in  
 active operation on the beds. — — —

Mr Hartick, by my instructions kept these details, and  
 reported them to me on the 28<sup>th</sup> of October last, and con-  
 cluded thus: Mr Wilburtson seems to be well  
 pleased they way the Salmon are working, and also,  
 he took down the names of the two night watches  
 Melfs<sup>3</sup> Jordan and Linton. —

Mr Hartick, continues his report again on the 25<sup>th</sup>  
 of November last, and states; On the 28<sup>th</sup> of October  
 still rainy weather with the water in the creek,  
 still rising; several fresh Salmon came up. —

The Salmon, that first came up the stream to  
 spawn on the rapids, and hids, now commenced to  
 descend the stream towards the Lake, this was on the  
 30<sup>th</sup> of October; and on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of October there  
 came up stream several fresh Salmon. — On the  
 1<sup>st</sup> of Nov; there were forty Salmon beds between Mr  
 Moss Smith's <sup>mill</sup> dam and Gager Mill, which comprise,  
 by the serpentine windings of Duffies Creek, a distance  
 of about one mile. — On the 6<sup>th</sup> of November several Salmon  
 went down the creek towards the Lake. — The water in  
 the creek getting very low at this time and the fish being  
 very weakly after spawning; Mr Hartick states he  
 had to assist some of the fish (spent Salmon) to do so.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of November, the principle part of the Salmon  
 were making their way down the creek towards the  
 Lake. — The 9<sup>th</sup> of November, the water raised in Duffies  
 Creek again, and on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November several fresh  
 Salmon came up the stream from the Lake. — On the  
 12<sup>th</sup> of November, they seemed to work well on the  
 beds. — The 20<sup>th</sup> of November there were about  
 fifty Salmon beds altogether. — On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of No-  
 vember, Duffies Creek, was so completely



Sir,

8. January 1874.

By instruction from the Department of Marine and Fisheries at Ottawa. - I have the pleasure of sending you four vouchers amounting to \$165, as follows:

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| 1. Joseph Moon, Esq., Hiland Creek Post Union P. Office. | \$20.00   |
| 2. Wm. Martick, Duffin Creek, Post Office                | 100.00.   |
| 3. Henry Moon, Scarborough, Port Union P. Office.        | 25.00.    |
| 4. John W. Kerr, for Wilcox & Co.                        | 20.00     |
| Total.   | \$165.00. |

"This amount exceeds the estimate I made and submitted to the Department, on the 13. of October last, (by five dollars) and which was then approved of. - Martick is unusually large, in the James Storey has earned nothing at all. - - -

You can send me a cheque for the full amount, if you think proper. -

I am Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.  
John W. Kerr  
Postmaster.

Sam. Wilcox Esq.  
Fishery Officer.  
Newcastle P. Office  
Onto

clear of the Salmon (parent fish) of 1873, all having disappeared, and gone down the stream into Lake Ontario.

Mr Hartick reported to me that about 100, or 120 parent fish (Salmon) were in Duffins Creek this season. Mr Hartick had besides himself, John Gordon, James Linton, and his hired man, who kept close watch night and day, over the Salmon while they were in Duffins Creek, spawning the period which elapsed between the 15<sup>th</sup> day of October, and the 22<sup>d</sup> of November last. And notwithstanding the close watch kept, Mr Hartick reports fish being illegally caught, killed and taken from the spawning beds of Duffins Creek this season.

Of the 100, or 120 Salmon in Duffins Creek, between the 15<sup>th</sup> of October, and the 22<sup>d</sup> of November last, twenty-five fish would weigh 16 pounds weight each; while the balance of the 120 fish would be from 5 to 12 lbs each, or giving an average of seven pounds, to nearly 100 fish. -- Not more than six of the whole number were grise, which tells satisfactorily. -- This shows the bright side of the Salmon in Duffins Creek for 1873. And now for the other side! One morning towards the close of the spawning time, Mr Hartick found two dead Salmon in the Creek with wounds on their heads; -- One was 9 pounds weight, the other a grise was 3½ pounds; besides a few fish were poached from the Creek, for the head and part of the body attached of a cut fish (a Salmon), was found in flesh, on the public road near Frenchmans Bay, about the time the Salmon were taken or misfed. Kate Monell, an old Salmon spearing fisherman, found the piece of Salmon referred to. -- A search was sent was obtained by Mr Hartick and two houses owned by suspected persons searched, but no Salmon were found therein. -- It strikes me as strange, with four men watching night and day how a single Salmon could be taken, if they

done their duty faithfully. —

Synde, or Lyons Creek. —

From this creek, I have nothing to report this year, worth mentioning. Mr. James Storey, in charge, in his statement why! the Salmon did not come in to the Creek this year 1873, the same as they did last year, is not tenable. — He does not appear to have paid much attention to the Creek, his son James, a promising young man did the latter end of last summer, and to this bereavement alone, I attribute Mr. Storey's apparent neglect of the Creek. —

The Rouge. —

Mr. William Cowan, who takes an interest in the preservation of the Salmon in this stream, which runs through his property, situated in Pickering, &c., states he went up the Creek five times, but saw neither Salmon nor beds. — Harry Moon, however reports more favourable, he says; two Salmon made a bed in the Big Rouge near a certain Big elm tree. — David Thompson, and a man named Sheridan who live near the Rouge in Scarborough, saw four Salmon, in the Big Rouge, on the beds or Rids. — Mr. David Thompson, however would kill them all, if he had the chance of doing so. — In the matter of the Rouge and Lyons Creek I would strongly recommend that Mr. Samuel Wilmet of the Irish Breeding Establishment at New castle Ontario should be instructed by the Fishery Department to place their gates across those two streams, securely and firmly fixed at some point chosen by himself, next fall beyond which no Salmon could go, and then as in Duffin's Creek, it could be seen at any time, while the Salmon are in these Creeks, how many Salmon are really there, for while knowing where they really are they can then be watched. —



I hope you will be pleased to give this suggestion of mine your attention. . . .

#### Skiland Creek. -

I had Mr. Joseph Moore, of Port Union, to attend to the mouth of Skiland Creek this fall which he opened five times, as it was stopped up by a sand bar, where it enters the waters of Lake Ontario. - He attended to the protection of this Creek as well, and so did Mr. William Bellwell, whose Flour Mill, on the creek, is situated on the Kings-ton Road, township of Scarborough, beyond which no ~~after they get there~~, no Salmon can go. - Mr. Moore says, two Salmon were seen in this Creek on a bed by a man named Booth; although Mr. Moore states he was several times up and down the creek himself, during the spawning time, he did not see any fish, because as he implies the rain washed the muddy clay off the banks, and discoloured the water in the stream. . . .

#### The River Credit.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of November last, I was informed by Mr. Stephen Hewed, a gentleman of reliability, and a resident of Toronto, who takes a very lively interest in our fisheries, that he was informed by Mr. Crofts, who keeps a Fishing tackle Warehouse there, that several Salmon were caught with flies in the River Credit during last summer. - I visited on Mr. Crofts myself, who informed me that early in July last, several persons of respectable mind and appearance, purchased Salmon flies from him to angle for Salmon, they told him were in a deep hole at a certain place in the River Credit. . . . Beyond this, altho' I made enquiry, I could gain no further information. . . . I find it a remarkable fact as regard Salmon visiting our banks at the present day, for spawning, that every alternative year, the show of Salmon surpasses in number, the previous year. . . .



In reporting to you the present very satisfactory condition of the Salmon this season, during October and November last, in Dufferin Creek, reminds me of a correspondence, which happened between Mr Charles F. Atkins, of Bucksport, State of Maine, and myself, the 11<sup>th</sup> day of August, and the 4<sup>th</sup> day of September last, - The subject being Lake Ontario Salmon.

Mr Atkins is so well and favorably known as a Commissioner of Fisheries, and having charge of the Fish Breeding Establishments of Maine that I hope you will not consider it presumption on my part my submitting for your perusal copies of the correspondence herewith marked No. 1, and 2.

#### Blue Back Herring. —

In connection with the catching killing and fishing for blue back herring, I have much pleasure in reporting to you that the fishermen on Burlington Beach, have discovered a place in Lake Ontario, about three miles out from the beach there, in deep water on a bar, where those fish were taken by them with gill nets in fair quantities this fall. — This will be another good reason for dispensing with Herring seines on the White fish seine hauling grounds altogether. —

#### Spearing Herring in B. Bay. —

When I made my report to you on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October last, spearing for Herring had not then commenced near the Heights in B. Bay. —

It was as late as the 19. of November, before the fish made their appearance there about forty persons availed themselves of the privilege granted them by the department, from whom I collected \$32. dollars. — The fish were not quite as numerous this season as in previous seasons but they were all fish of splendid

quality, large and in good condition. - I am able to calculate that about 36,000 herring were speared altogether worth about 360<sup>00</sup> dollars, to the persons who caught them. -

The scarcity of these fish, this season as compared with the past admonishes me, and I beg most respectfully to recommend that spearing for herring be discontinued altogether in B. bay, for five years from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March next 1874, and that you will be pleased to issue an order to this effect. -

With regard to seine hauling, pike gill net, and herring gill net fishing, sanctioned by the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister of Marine and Fisheries, at fixed times and in fixed places, each season in B. bay by the fishermen &c. of B. beach, - a printed petition is being circulated for signatures throughout the City of Hamilton, by certain apparently very interested individuals who started the petition; Praying that pike gill net fishing may be stopped by the department. - When you receive this petition, and send it back to me to report upon, I shall then be able to lay all the facts fairly before you. -

#### Appeals. -

With regard to the appeals referred to in the previous part of my report herewith; - Counsel for the appellants tendered to me costs for Constable, and some witness fees in these two cases which I accepted, allowing the fine to remain in Abeyance, as a guarantee for future good behaviour, the nuisance being abated by the proceedings I had instituted would I trust meet your approbation. -

#### White fish gill net fishing in L. Erie. -

The White fish gill net fishing on Lake Erie between Port Ryerse and Kewinham Centre alluded to, in my report of the 31. of October, was of short duration this season. - In consequence of boisterous stormy weather there, not so many of those

choice fish were taken and caught, as in the last year and previous seasons, but they were of good and superior quality, and brought remunerative prices. . . .

The Grand River Special Report will be found herewith, as referred to, in page 4, of my report of the 31<sup>st</sup> day of October last. - -

1 The Fort Erie, Niagara River seine hauling  
and Lake Erie, Hook and Line fisheries. ---

Early in this year, I divided the Niagara River fisheries at Fort Erie, giving to Mr. Chester A. Harris, the old licensee, the best portion of the seine hauling grounds, and the balance to Thomas Everett, for which each paid to the department the annual license fee of twenty five dollars. -

This does not appear to be an arrangement acceptable to Mr Harris, who demurs, and maintains that he should have the whole of the fisheries to himself. - - How I will be plain in telling you, that I cannot see this thing in the same light that ~~Mr~~ Harris would wish me to. - - - The Vice-

gand River fisheries are quite different from the St. Clair and Detroit River fisheries. For while the ~~former River can be fished at stated periods for~~ <sup>the whole year round, and varieties of fish taken therefrom, the latter</sup> white fish, herring and pickered; Beside there is the splendid fish market at Buffalo, close at hand, which always commands high prices for fresh fish. --

Then there are Messrs<sup>3</sup> George Hutton, and John  
Swirth, applicants for the coming year of 1874, of that  
portion of the Niagara River fisheries licensed as  
you are already aware to Thomas Swirth,  
the 10<sup>th</sup> of February last, while Mr<sup>r</sup> Harris still  
persists that he should have the entire fisheries...  
Now what I propose and recommend is, that  
the fisheries in the Niagara River at this  
do still remain as they are, and have



been all through this past season. - Harris to retain what he has now; and Melf<sup>2</sup>. Hutton and Everitt, still retaining what Thomas Everitt licensed last February. - The latter with one seine each, to make alternate hauls. - There is fish enough, and remunerative to do all this. - - -

And with respect to the hook and line fishing carried on in Lake Erie, at the mouth of the Niagara River by the fishermen of this class, living at Old Fort Erie for pickerel and sturgeon, which is principally carried on during the winter, and early spring, I have to request most respectfully, that I may be allowed to charge each fisherman a small licensed fee to make the same legal and enable them to catch bait.

It has been represented to me that our fishermen at Fort Erie, sometimes fish in American waters; while the American fishermen from Buffalo, and Black Rock, fraternize with them, cross over the line, and set their hooks and lines and fish in our waters of Lake Erie, in front of Fort Erie. For my own guidance I beg most respectfully to draw your attention to this matter. - please instruct me!! - - -

The fisheries at the Town of Niagara. -

The gill net fishermen at Niagara invariably cross the River there every season and set their white fish and pickerel gill nets in the American waters of Lake Ontario; to which at this present day, there is no objection made by the people over the River, nor yet by the American Authorities. - The fish caught are always landed in the town of Niagara. - Some few of our own gill net fishermen, go every season to fish there. - This is objected to by our licensed gill net fishermen at Niagara, but as the fishing is carried on in American waters over which I have no control. - I beg most respectfully to submit this matter to you for consideration, so that you may give me advice and counsel for my guidance. - - -



At the four mile creek fisheries, Lake Ontario, there are two seine hauling grounds, one of which is fished by licensed fishermen Mr James Cantwell - the other by Mr Abraham St. Robb. - They are both very slow persons in their fishing movements, and to stir them up a little; I want you to authorize me to put on each ground another licensed seine, so as to make alternate hauls with each of the present licensees. . . .

This I consider absolutely necessary in consequence of the white fish run never exceeding more than six weeks duration in April and May, each year; when it ceases altogether until the following year, at the same period; And because during this short period of the fishing season the grounds in my opinion are never more than half fished by Mr St. Robb and Cantwell. -

I had got this job, with this report, when it was published, communicated to me that the Local Government at Toronto, had granted and leased Burlington beach, which is situated about seven miles from the City of Hamilton, to that Corporation, for a long term of years, at a mere nominal rental of one dollar per year. . . .

The licensed fishermen on Burlington Beach being in possession of these facts, have requested me as Overseer, to say their prior rights of possession thereto, before you, hoping that you will protect them in their holdings and occupancy thereto, in connection with the fisheries there, extending from the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty four, now nearly fifty years, up to this present time. . . . And some of them, New Brunswickers by birth, even claim possession upwards of sixty years. . . .

The fishermen say; they commenced fishing there, during the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty six; and have continued fishing there ever since; up to this present day. . . . That on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of April 1859, John Buchanan, Provincial Land Surveyor, by instructions from the Crown Lands Department of Upper Canada, under the immediate superintendence of the late Superintendent of Fisheries, Colonel John Macquay, laid off the beach in fishing stations, as the fishermen assert, when our rights were ascribed to us by him of our possessions there, for all time to come. . . . And this possession still remains in tact to them as the occupants thereof, under licenses annually issued by the Department of Fisheries. And for which they pay an annual rental, and they respectfully ask the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister of Marine and Fisheries to protect them in these vested rights and privileges. . . . Because they consider under such invested rights, and privileges which they hold; they should be first thought of considerably,

by the local Government of the Province of Ontario, who now for the first time claim the exclusive ownership of Burlington Beach. -

Their squatter rights they say: should be first considered, and be then respected, because it has always been the custom of all governments to do this!!.. Being in possession, and having a priority right, ~~and~~ claim to the premises they occupy entitle them to some consideration first; others to be considered afterwards. - - -

I may here state for your information, that there is about seventy acres of B. beach fenced in, as gardens and fields, where market gardens are carried on by the fishermen, and between the produce of those gardens, which they sell, and by the fishing they carry on, under licenses from the department of Fisheries, they maintain themselves and their families. - and being so long in undisturbed possession of the same, paying taxes both school, and municipal taxes annually (for they are rated, and exercise the franchise - did expect as loyal British subjects, that perhaps, they would at least, be consulted before anything was done to take their right away from them and give it to another. - Because theirs is the only home they have, possess, and occupy. - - -

I am requested by the licensed fishermen of Burlington Beach, who convened a meeting, talked over these matters, and asked me to be present, to submit these grievances of theirs to you for consideration. - - -

Whatever the Provincial Government at Toronto may be induced to <sup>if they control the Beach</sup> do, for the fishermen, on your recommendation; I hope you will have our fishing rights long since established on our Beach for the benefit of the fishermen, at the public at large, still maintained inviolate, so that



the Corporation of the City of Hamilton, may neither now, nor hereafter be placed in a position to interfere with, nor set aside, so far as the fisheries and fishermen on B<sup>y</sup> Beach, in either Lake Ontario, or B<sup>y</sup> Bay are concerned. —

If this project is to be carried into effect, be pleased to see that the usual fishing reserve of one or two chains, on the Bay, and Lake Ontario, at B<sup>y</sup> Beach, is maintained from high water mark, to the fisheries, as also the Reserve to the B<sup>y</sup> Bay Canal, and Light house on B<sup>y</sup> Beach. — I strongly recommended this. —

Such fishing reserves &c, were set apart when the Crown property on Toronto Island, Lake Ontario, and Long Point, and Big Marsh, Lake Erie were disposed of to the present owner. — I beg most respectfully to recommend that you will be pleased to cause such an essential thing to be done in this case. —

Personally, I have no interest in this affair, beyond that as the Overseer of Fisheries, acting for the mutual benefit of the fishermen, the public and the department, who have asked me, and urged me to lay this matter, fully and fairly before you for their mutual consideration. —

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr

Overseer

3. January 1874, —

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister of  
Marine and Fishing  
Canada.



Sir,

22 December 1873. -

I have the honor to report to you, that I said in my report to you, and which the Duville and Grand River fisheries require I should. - -

I beg therefore most respectfully to report. - - at Duville in the Grand River, - and Sulphur Creek at Maitland. - a portion of the Grand River - Spring fishing and this season fishing has been very good and to keep the fishery there in this prosperous condition, <sup>there are several things always</sup> besides the observance of the laws, - necessary to be done to keep it in this flourishing condition. - - From Duville, Va. to the mouth of the Grand River, - Lake Erie - the distance by the windings of the stream, is put down at about five miles. - Now when I visited Port Maitland and Duville getting up my statistics on the night of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October last, I found the River stopped up with rafts of timber, and no light thereon for at least a distance of half a mile from the mouth. - - Navigation was impeded, so that the person with me in a small row boat, and myself were obliged to get on a Raft and haul the boat for a long distance over the same to get into clear rowing water again, and this we had to repeat twice both ways. - - worse than this! -

Mr Henry Koff, licensed fisherman, at Port Maitland, complained to me that his fishing there was greatly obstructed by rafts, being brought in there by ships of weather, and this was often done during the season of navigation so as to disturb and injure this fishery there. - - please refer to Section 13. and to Sub Section 2. of Section 13, of the fisheries Act. -

Now then, in the Grand River at Duville, I found that a good many old timbers, for instance long round old pile timbers have been thrown into the River, below the dam, from time to time, during past years, not so much latterly as formerly, by persons employed, under the Board of Works, repairing and making improvements

to the dam there, besides the two saw mills, until noticed by me, and hauled up did heretofore do much damage in allowing saw dust and mill rubbish into the Grand river at this place, and which is still a great injury and a damage to the fishery there, and to fishermen.

The fishway put into the dam at Denville, by the late Canal Superintendent, ~~the~~ Samuel D. Woodruff, has not worked well, for the simple reason that the lower part of it was not properly constructed nor yet placed sufficiently low in the water, to attract the attention of migrating fishes.

In the large mill pond or sheet of water, the Grand River, above the dam, from which the mills, and the feeder is at present supplied; fish of various kinds, such as bafs, pike, muskonge, sun fish, mullet, suckers, Catfish, sturgeon are found in large quantities, I might say in abundance. -- Until within the last three years, I was not made aware that this was the case. -- With regard to the extensive angling carried on in these waters. -- I have drawn your attention to the same in my report of the 31<sup>st</sup> day of October last. -- The farmers sometimes it appears, who are residents on both sides along the River from Denville up as far as Cayuga, have at certain seasons of the year been in the habit of spearing fish, with jack lights. -- This I have not yet been able to catch them at, but I expect if alive and well to do so, this coming year. -- and now in regard to the Mill Owners, of the mill dams on the Grand River I said that it is absolutely necessary, that the owners of the mill dams should be served with notices to put fish ways in the same, so as to enable the spring fish to ascend the River as far as Brantford, Paris, and Galt, the people of which consider, and I think very justly too, that they should have a fair opportunity

afforded them of procuring some of those fish, when <sup>ever</sup> they ascend the river as far up as those towns I have referred to. -- Again, many people say, our depleted waters should be restocked with fish fry, and impregnated ova, from the Government Fish Breeding Establishment, at ~~Herb~~ = Castle Ontario. -- I therefore most respectfully do recommend that Salmon Trout fry, White fish, and pickered fry, be furnished from the fish breeding establishment, during the coming year. -- It is a splendid river, and ought to receive attention in this respect. -- and be furnished in large quantities of ova. --

As for Salmon, my firm belief is, they could not exist in it, nor prosper, not being able to get to the sea, nor salt water. -- I do not ask for any of them for the Grand River. --

The mill dams in the Grand River, to which I have reference, and to which I beg most respectfully to draw your attention, as requiring fish-ways so as to meet the requirements and wishes of the public generally are as follows: --

1. Dam at Caledonia. -- Messrs <sup>3</sup> McQuarry & Thorburn, Ronald McDonald, and James Ball, are the owners. --

2. Dam No: 3, at Millfield. -- Messrs <sup>3</sup> William Wilson, Colin Baker, and Wm Hall are the owners. --

3. Dam No: 2, at York. -- Messrs <sup>3</sup> Adam A. Davis, The Ontario Plaster Company, A. Taylor, the Managers -- are the owners, --

4. Dam No: 1, at Mr. Healy, Messrs <sup>3</sup> John Donaldson, William Donaldson & Co., and Alexander Taylor, are the owners. --

5. Indiana Cent. --

J. Lester, James Lee's, James Kirkland, and David Thompson Esqrs <sup>3</sup> M. J., are the owners. --



The persons named herewith are the proper owners, and proprietors of the mill dams named. -- Heretofore on a former occasion, when you instructed me I notified Mr. Thomas Broughton of Brantford, the then manager of the Grand River Navigation Company to put slides or fish ways in the dams now referred to, but he never paid any attention to the notices. -- The company being X Bankrupt at the time. -- Since then a change has taken place in the ownership of the Grand River. -- I therefore respectfully request that you will be pleased to furnish me with the necessary notice for each of the persons whose names I beg leave to say I require them for. --

Hon: the Minister of I have the Honor to  
Marine and Fisheries. --  
Ottawa. John W. Starr  
Overseer. --

Sir,

22. December 1873.

I have the honor to report, that on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of August last, I addressed to you a letter apprising you that Mr. J. H. Birley of this City had then bought out Mrs. Joan Baldry's house, and premises situated on Burlington Beach, and asking you in behalf of Mr. J. H. Birley, for a license of the Fisheries occupied by her, in front of the said property, situated both in B. bay, and in Lake Ontario, as per plan herewith. --

Subsequently, on the 25<sup>th</sup> of August last, I received from the Department, the sanction of the Hon: the Minister to issue the usual fishery season licenses, for fishing stations Nos: 1, and 2, in B. bay, and Nos: 18, and 19, in Lake Ontario, the same being in the township of Saltfleet, and County of Wentworth, at the annual rental of \$20. -- Those four fishing stations, as you will please observe are situated in front and rear of the property herein and heretofore alluded to, and sold to Mr.



Joan Baldry - the conveyance of which it appears, was completed on the 25. day of November last (1873), - by paying over to ~~the~~ Joan Baldry, the sum of \$1800, purchase money, by the purchasers, the Messrs, Morris J. Birney, and Charles Abraham, of this City, for the House, and premises fenced in and partly planted some twenty five years ago, with Willow trees &c. The plan attached to this report, and the conveyance here-with, you will please find, shows; and describes the property purchased by them, from Mr Baldry, also the fishing stations Nos: 1, and 2, and Nos 18, and 19, licensed to Mr J. Birney, as already referred to. . . . .

Now it does appear that Mr Baldry has been in quiet and peaceable possession of the fisheries attached to the same both before, and since the fisheries law was first enacted: - and previous to this, for a period of 19. years, Jacob Spoken, Esq; Corey, Esq; and James Therman &c, were in poss<sup>n</sup> of the fisheries attached to the same <sup>id</sup> House and premises. - and the fisheries attached to the same. . . The house was in the first place, built by Jacob Spoken, for a Tavern stand. This was about the year 1824, for the accommodation of those persons who were there employed in the construction of the Burlington bay Canal, which is adjacent thereto. . . . .

I give you all these details as it is my duty to do, and that you may be in poss<sup>n</sup> of these facts, as well as myself. . .

It appears from allegations put forward by Messrs Birney and Abraham, that they purchased the property from Mr Joan Baldry in good faith, believing that in doing so, their rights and her right of a long possession of years, would be respected by the Fisheries Department, and that they will at least.

obtain from the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister of Marine and Fisheries; a lease of years of the four fisheries (stations) attached to the said property, at the advanced yearly rental upon the last license fee paid by them on the 21<sup>st</sup> of August last, (say 40<sup>¢</sup> per annum) which they say, will be an inducement to them, to make improvements in these buildings for the accommodation of the citizens of Hamilton during the hot and sultry days of Summers each year: - and for each succeeding term of years to be set forth, in the lease from the department of Marine and Fisheries to them, and which I believe myself will be for all time to come during the continuance of the same a vast improvement to the Fisheries of this locality, as compared with what it was, in the days that are past. . . .

I know the gentlemen the applicants for several years past, and can add that they are men of respectability, and high social standing. . . .

I have much pleasure in recommending that their application may be granted. . . .

To commence on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January 1874. And in recommending this to your favorable consideration for approval and adoption, I can say, I believe it will be received as a boon by a large majority of the citizens of Hamilton. . . .

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,

Ottawa.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
Recorder.

Sir,

22<sup>d</sup> December 1873. -

I have the honor to apply to you for a five years Lease of the fishery station in Burlington bay, as described in the enclosed license for the year 1873, the same being situated in the Township of Barton, and in the County of Wentworth. - -

This application is made by me at the request of Mr. William Gage, for the annual rental of five dollars, the same to commence on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January next, and the said amount to be payable in advance, on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January in each year. - - -

The lease now asked for to be in accord with the license for the current year, and based on all the provisions of the Fisheries Act, its rules and regulations. - - -

In submitting this application, I have much pleasure in recommending the same to your favourable consideration, believing as I, that by your granting it, the same will be an advantage gained to this part of the fisheries of B. bay, in the protection of which, I may confess to you, I have always found fault night and day, since I was first appointed Mr. Wm Gage, and his son Mr. Andrew Gage able assistants of mine both in preserving the fish, and upholding the Fisheries Act. - Besides I may as well say that Mr. Wm Gage does not intend making a special business of fishing. - His desire and intention being more of a protecting nature. - -

Hon. Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
John H. Kerr  
O.

Sir

22, December 1873.

I have the honor to bring under your consideration, that I deem it advisable for the interests of the seine hauling fishermen, and fisheries of Turkey point, in the township of Charlottetown, and County of Norfolk, in Lake Erie, that it is necessary I should apply, and obtain your sanction to re- or sub-divide some of the seine hauling grounds there under the powers invested in me by Sub Section 5, of Section 18, of the Fisheries Act. ---

For instance there are eleven seine hauling grounds there at present, five of those are held by one man (W. Brooks), while the other six are in the possession of individuals, - one ground each. ---

I want to give James Ferris, a seine hauling ground, and James LaRose another, early spring fishing grounds, which I can only do by taking a portion of Brooks grounds from him, or by allowing each one to make alternate hauls on the same grounds. ---

I can do this with your sanction and permission without doing Brooks any harm, and I can arrange the matters between them. ---

Hon. Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries -  
Ottawa,

I have to

Cohill, Secy.

oversee. -

P. S. - The same to take effect, from the commencement of the year the 1<sup>st</sup> of January next 1874. -

Cohill, Secy.

O.



Sir,

19, January 1874,

I have the honor to apply to you in behalf of the Fishermen on B<sup>a</sup> beach &c, for permission under license, to fish pike gill nets in that portion of Burlington bay, south and east of a line situated between the west side of James Harvey's bush, which is on the south side of the bay, on the bay shore in the township of Barton, and ~~the~~ Martin's wharf on Burlington beach, in the township of Saltfleet, in the County of Wentworth, and which part and parcel of the said bay comprises about one seventh of the whole bay itself. -- The balance of the bay, except seven small seine hauling grounds situated on B<sup>a</sup> beach, being a reserve for the anglers of the City of Hamilton, to be free, gratis, --

This pike gill net fishing to terminate by or before the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May next, and not to commence fishing there, before the ice commences to break up. -- Please refer to my letter to you of the 12, February 1872, for pike gill net fishing, when leave was then granted by you, to fish within the limits of the said Bay. -- now applied for again to you. --

I ask for, and recommend this, thus far in advance, so as to enable the fishermen to get up nets, and be in a fishing position properly equipped, when the proper time arrives to commence. --

I Have &c  
John W. Kerr  
D.O.

Hon. Minister,  
&c. &c. &c. --

Sir,

19, January 1874,

With reference to the Turkey Point fisheries which you have sanctioned me to sub divide, so far as the seine hauling grounds there are concerned, and to accommodate resident fishermen.

I have the honor to report, that Messrs William and George Helmes, of Charlottesville, County of Norfolk, have recently bought out James Brackett's House, and squatter rights on the point, but not to live there, to whom Brackett also gave the unexpired term of his fishing license there, for the year 1873. -

You will please bear in mind that those Helmes, a couple of years ago, caused excessive annoyance, and trouble to the Local fishery guardian Mr. Peter Price, whom they had arrested for stealing a seine net, their property, which he had seized for a contravention of the Fisheries Act. - -

They have always been, and are now represented to me as worthless, disagreeable men of loose light fingered character, who have stolen seine hauling lines from Messrs Jackson and Snook, two years ago. - - And just recently, since New years, stole a new coil of rope from William Snook. - -

James Crockett, moved away last fall to Big Marsh beach, Lake Erie, and had paid his license fee on Turkey Point, I had therefore no objection to offer to this license expiring by effluxion of time. - - -

I have now the honor to report that I shall not advise a license to issue to

Messrs. Williams and George Helmer, of any fishery  
 on Turkey point, for this current year, because of  
 all their improper proceedings. -- And because  
 I have the application in my possession for brock-  
 ets fishing ground, from Mr. James LeRose, who is  
 a well disposed quiet, well conducted person  
 with a large family of small children, and  
 who is already a resident on Turkey point,  
 which the Messrs. Helmer's are not. ---

I beg most respectfully to recommend that  
 I may be allowed by you to prepare a  
 copy of license of brockets old fishing ground  
 at Turkey point, in Lake Erie, for this current  
 season, to Mr. James LeRose, at the annual fee  
 of twenty dollars, to commence on, and from  
 the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January instant. ---

This will also meet the approbation of  
 the other resident fishermen there.

I Have &c.  
 John W. Kerr  
 Overseer.

Hon. Minister, -  
 &c. &c. &c.

Paid Postages 6¢  
 Nat. Gray. -  
 Jas. LeRose. -  
 W. Gray &c 6¢

Sir,

20, January 1874,

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank cheque No; 92, for the sum of Thirty dollars. - Will you be pleased to apply the same as follows; sending me Original licenses - for Copies. - -

1. Mr Richard Gilbert, of Jordan, in the township of South, County of Lincoln - a License to fish in the waters of the twenty mile creek, and pond for this current year; Copy of license herewith. - 10.00
  2. Richard Gilbert, a License to fish white fish gill nets, in Lake Ontario, in port of the twenty mile creek, &c. for this current year. do, 5.00
  3. Mr John Wadsworth - License to fish two machines nets, in Niagara River at Queenston Heights township of Niagara, for the year ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December last. - - - 12.00
  4. John Birks, a spearing license for 1874. 1.00
  5. John Barnard, do. - do. - 1.00
  6. William Rose. - do - do, - 1.00
- Total: \$ 30.00.

All of which is respectfully Submitted,  
I Have &c.

Chas Minister,

H. H. H.

Ontario,

John W. Kerr

Deputy.

Monday 26, January 1874,

At Supr. Bridge and Queenston to make enquiry from Joe Gabriel about John Wadsworth application for a fresh lease of a small piece of property on the Banks of the River at Queenston Heights - Gabriel knows all about it, as well as myself went out at 8. A.M. came in at 4. P.M. Miles 108. -  
Ry fare 6.00, Horse & buggy 2. dinner 25. - -



Sir,

26. January 1874,

With reference to the petition of Mayor Charlton, D. B., Christopher M. R. J. M. Williams, M. J. S. and John Brown Esq<sup>rs</sup> and 498 others, with regard to pike gill net fishing and seine hauling in B. bay by the B. beach fishermen. - Together with the uncalled for letter accompanying the same to you, from the Mayor of this city, I have the honor to report for your information, that it is quite true that the Fishery department allow the fishermen on B. B<sup>ch</sup> under license to fish pike gill nets in that portion of the bay, situated east &c. of a line drawn from Harvey's point in Boston to Martin's wharf in South Beach on the beach but this does not comprise more than  $\frac{1}{7}$ <sup>th</sup> of the whole bay, and it is only for a short time, and in the season of all others when pike are most valuable, because all other kinds of fish are then very scarce, it is in fact close time for bass, and the pickerel. - Besides pike are not, and never were classed under the head of valuable fish. - It was never deemed advisable under the present Fisheries Act, to make an order in Council, for a close season for this voracious fish, see section 10. of the act, the license system being sufficient, for all such purposes so far as B. bay, or any of the other waters in my district are concerned, -

This privilege granted by you has not acted in a prejudicial manner upon the increase of that fish, because excessive nor destructive fishing is not permitted by me within that one seventh portion of the Bay that you permitted the fishermen to catch pike in with gill nets. - During about three weeks of last April, the fishermen caught 232 Barrels of pike, valued at 1306<sup>#</sup> dollars; - please refer to my annual returns ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December last. -

It is not true, nor is it a fact, that seines are used which drain the bay of all kinds

of fish. -- You have permitted seine to be used by the fishermen, petitioned against in B. bay, on B. Bay just exactly for a distance of 1188 yards of Bay frontage south of the Canal, and again up at another corner of the bay in the township of Nelson, near Brant's pond. Ben. Isaac has two small shining grounds there, where the principle fish caught are suckers, and these fish although not superior to pike sell very well, and are prized by the community with the pike because of the scarcity of all other kinds of fish <sup>during</sup> ~~at~~ this particular short season you have allowed them to be taken. While the vast remaining territory of the bay, has never had a license granted for seine hauling, by neither the department nor me. --

And further: Your petitioners say: that the destruction of pike or any other fish, which is destructive to salmon is an impossibility whilst B. bay is connected to Lake Ontario, by the canal, an opening which allows all kinds of fish to enter the bay at pleasure. --

I cordially endorse the contents of this clause, as I have no fault to find with such an admission, and which is contradictory to what the petitioners have previously drawn your attention to, about the scarcity of pike as it is set forth in their petition, and which assumed scarcity has no foundation whatever to stand upon, I can assure you that the fish were never more numerous in B. bay than they are at the present time. --

Then the petitioners would also state upon the authority of those qualified to judge, that the waters of B. bay are unfit for the permanent stay of salmon on account of its muddy bottom, which is raised to the surface by the least agitation by the winds or rain, and besides there is a total absence of gravel, two feet

which must most deleteriously affect the propagation of Salmon. —

In reply to the clause of the petitioners<sup>petition</sup>, I distinctly say, and that without fear of contradiction, that Salmon in their numerous days were never known to make a permanent stay in the waters of B. bay, but it was not on account of the impurity of the muddy water that they left it. — Neither do Salmon make a permanent stay in the waters of the Salmon Creek east of Toronto, that they frequent to spawn in, for it is not the nature of Salmon to remain there continually. — For Salmon it is well known have never<sup>yet</sup> made a permanent stay in fresh water, No! nor in salt water, for the simple reason, that nature has endowed this splendid fish, with knowledge sufficient for all the purposes of life — By changing from fresh water to salt water for a purpose, and from salt water back again to the fresh water for another wise purpose — they live, move, and have their being. — "I certainly expected the petitioners would allude to the Coal oil in the Bay."

The petitioners are all wrong, and have endeavoured to impress upon your mind that they do know everything about the muddy bottom of B. bay, while the fact is, they know nothing at all about it. — But I can tell you from my own knowledge, as a fact, that not more than the  $\frac{1}{10}$  of the bottom of B. bay is mud; Hence it would be again a splendid nursery for young Salmon, if the remains of J. M. Williams and son coal oil therein, did not injure them, as it has other fishes — There is a gravel, and sandy bottom



from the Canal at the Beach, as far south as the point, a distance of nearly two miles long, from 200 to 600 yards wide, the whole distance.

In front of the Wharves, far, and further up and down east and west, there is a bar of sand and gravel 500 yards out from the shore.

From Starveys point to the clay wharf in front of Lands Bay, there is a bar of sand and gravel more than one mile long.

In front of Dundrum for a mile long the bottom is sand and gravel, and it was here in years gone by, that young Salmon, herring, &c. were caught with hook and line in abundance, by old settlers.

From Carrolls point to Plants pond "in deep water" - a distance of six miles there is an extensive bar of sand and gravel, besides a sandy gravelly beach, for more than two miles long, thus showing that those persons who are represented as qualified to judge, know nothing whatever of B. Bay, neither do they know anything of the action of the rain nor wind, for if they did, they make unfounded assertions.

Mr Mayor Charlton, in his letter of the 14<sup>th</sup> instant, which he attached to the petition says: "The few fishermen who derive a very questionable benefit from the present destructive system prevent the Bay from becoming well stocked with good fish to the detriment of the whole community."

This is sweeping language to be used by a Mayor of the City of Hamilton, containing nearly 30,000 inhabitants. - But I maintain, there is no truth in his assertion whatever.

In the first place, the fishermen are not few, they are many, including men, women and children they number 153 persons.

The Mayor says, the fishermen, who derive



a very questionable benefit, from the present destructive system. -- There is no question whatever on this subject, and I challenge the Mayor, and the whole petitioners to prove if they can, or if they dare, that the fishermen on B. Bch. are not contented, happy and comfortable, under the present management of the Fisheries department. --

It is a wilful slander, and without an appearance of truth, for a man occupying such an exalted position, to use language ~~and~~ <sup>that</sup> trying to injure so many peaceable, industrious people without any just cause, from earning an honest and honorable living, which they are permitted to do, under the strict surveillance of the Fisheries Act. -- As for it being a destructive system, there is nothing of the kind, and if so, when did Mayor Charlton discover it, and if so, why did he not apprise me! -- He knows me well. --

There is no truth whatever in the Mayor's assertion for the community is benefitted, and not the contrary, by the industry of the B. beach fishermen in catching a surplus of those fish referred to. -- The Mayor should be more cautious not use language so destructive and injurious (if true) towards the many fishermen (their wives and children) of B. Bch. which I maintain again <sup>entirely</sup> is <sup>in</sup> <sup>benefit</sup> of truth in every particular, and is neither founded upon truth nor facts. --

There is an appearance of comfort, perceptible in the fishermen, their wives, and children - their houses - everything clean and tidy, and they have sufficient to meet their daily requirements, and as fishermen occupy this day an independent position, some of them having horses - cows, boys, and a poultry are out of debt - well clothed well fed, and sober with only a few exceptions

And are I assure you this day above the reproach used by the Mayor of the City of Hamilton, -- and for the comfort they enjoy thank the Fisheries department at Ottawa. -- Deprive them of the Buckle Seining, and the Pike gill net fishing, for the short time in those fixed places, established in the Bay, and you will damage and injure them materially -- Please then leave them this day, what they are, for I can assure you that no man feels prouder of their present position than I do. --

And now for the petition itself, and its originator, The petition was got up by Mr. S. L. Bastien, a Boat builder, who has a boat house on the bay, with a fleet of <sup>about 100</sup> row and sailing boats to rent out to pleasure seekers during hours of recreation, and during Sundays and holidays. -- About two months ago, I met Mr. Bastien near the Post office here when he told me of his intention of getting up the petition, which he was then getting signatures to, "a printed copy herewith". His statement to me then was that he could not rent out his boats now as in former years, for the people renting his boats once never rented them again. for he said they caught no fish, and he laid his misfortune to B. B. Ch fishermen. -- Since then persons have approached me talking about giving \$200, a year for the Bay, provided I would recommend you to keep the fishermen's gill nets for pike, and seines for Buckles out of the Bay, for that they wanted the bay altogether for angling purposes. -- No offer however beyond this has since been made to me.

Why in presenting this petition for your consideration, the object pure and simple is not stated, I leave you to conjecture, Why did not Mayor Charlton, D. B. Chisholm, and Mr. Bastien come out boldly, as men, and say that it was their own selfish ends they wished to

accomplish. - Mr D. M. Bishop M. P. last spring attempted to do this very thing, when attending to his parliamentary duties, and in a letter he wrote me then on the subject, he belittled the fishermen, and wanted to get the whole bay, for an angling preserve for the working men of Hamilton. - But I could not be made to see the Bay in that light. -

There is sufficient fish in B. bay for every purpose, fish in great abundance, as last April's take of pike will have shown you. - - -

I cannot therefore recommend that the prayer of this Petition be granted because were I to do this I would be inflicting a serious wrong upon the industrious fishermen of B. Bay whom you have permitted to catch these pike and suckers at short intervals each spring in fixed places, so as to replenish their own stock of provisions, as well as supply the Community with fish, which after the severity of Winter is always one of the most judicious, and considerate acts that the Fishery department at Ottawa has ever granted to the licensed fishermen, who supply the consumers the people of Hamilton, and the Community with these fish, and have anxiously looked out for every spring. - - -

I might say a good deal more, but my application in behalf of anglers dated 19. of January, will I hope meet your approval, and be satisfactory to the anglers of the City of Hamilton, for whom I entertain the highest respect and esteem. -

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries.

Ottawa.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
Overseer



Sir,

1<sup>st</sup> February 1874.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 29<sup>th</sup> ultimo, acknowledging the receipt of the petition of the Mayor, and certain inhabitants of the City of Hamilton, against netting in N. Bay, together with my report thereon, and stating that on the plimister's return the same will be submitted for his decision. -- For which I thank you. -- And further you are pleased to say - that Meanwhile your attention is called to the fact, that you went to state if the time from some indefinite period when the ice clears away down to the 5<sup>th</sup> of May, during which licenses were heretofore granted, does, or does not include the spawning season for pike in that locality, and whether or not the limits prescribed for netting comprises grounds resorted to by pike for spawning and are or are not the principal and only grounds, and if not, are any spawning grounds still reserved to keep the waters of the Bay well stocked. -- These are the essential points. --

In reply, I have the honor to report for your information that during the time for which licenses were heretofore granted say from about the 12 of April, to the 10<sup>th</sup> of May, did not include the entire spawning time. --

There can be no doubt whatever, but the pike are on their way <sup>the deep water up the Bay and</sup> from Lake Ontario, to, and hunting for, the spawning grounds, when taken; as the brilliant gold colored spots on the greater number of these fish indicate at once where they have come from. -- The gill nets are not so placed, when used as entirely to obstruct the fish, or delay their passage to, and from accustomed resorts for spawning, and increasing their species. -- Please refer to, sub Section 5. of Section 13. of the Fisheries Act. --

Besides the inlets are not, and never will be entirely & sectioned with <sup>pike</sup> gill nets. -- And even in this one seventh part of the Bay, there is more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  of it, where no pike gill nets are



never set, and where pike remain undisturbed. -

Where the same hauling has been carried on heretofore, no pike ever spawn, are merely passing to the spawning ground, or feeding there on perch and herring, on their return thence to Lake Ontario again. -

There can be no doubt whatever from the amount of pike taken last year, viz 232 Barrels, worth \$1306, dollars, but that the run of pike in this portion of the bay was excellent. - But there are other places in the bay, equally as good, if the fishermen were privileged by you to fish in them under a license - for instance, Kerr's pond set apart, the Lands Bay. - the small marshes on the north side of the Bay, between Kerr's pond, and the Heights, a distance of about seven miles. at the W. Bay depot. - All Dundas Marsh. - and the Herkules Canal. - the marsh in rear of Mr. Peter Carrolls farm, - besides a large expanse of Bay in the heights. - These are places, where pike spawn.

nets, being fished in any of the places just now referred to, except in Lands Bay. - I have heard of none. -

And now I have a few words more to say respecting this petition. - I have no doubt upon my mind, but the fishermen could if it was necessary, to do so, get up as respectable a petition for licenses being granted by you to them for leave to fish all over the Bay. - And I have no opinion in my mind, but that  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the person who signed the petition would sign theirs. -

Mr John Brown, a prime amongst men would sign no petition to injure a B. B. fisherman - neither would Col. McFinnere nor John D. Mackenzie, &c. &c. ad infinitum. And I know it. - - -

Men who sign petitions, hardly ever read them.

Besides business men have no time to do it. — Only a few men could be got to sign this petition if they read it over, because it is to reflect an injury upon a large community of people such as B. Bay is and at the instance of Mr. Baster, and a few Boat Owners and anglers, who have concocted the same, so as to serve their own selfish purposes. — — —

Why! Six years ago, before the present Fisheries Act was passed — and became law, the cry in Hamilton was, plenty of fish in B. Bay and we the Citizens cannot get any of them for love nor money, because the fishermen are not allowed to fish nets in it. — Under the <sup>then</sup> existing Fisheries Act. — Now the cry with a few selfish people who want to aggrandize themselves to the detriment of these self-same fishermen is different, and in a contrary direction. — — —

You will please note that Mr. Saml. Wilbuck, of the A. Breeding Establishment of Newcastle, Ontario, joined with me in a recommendation to the Department 3 years ago, for to allow this pike gear net fishing to be carried on in certain localities, as a general means of preserving and increasing salmon and other valuable fish in Lake Ontario — they pray upon. —

After mature consideration, I have now come to a conclusion to recommend that all that fishery of B. Bay, and — — — das Marsh, &c. &c. &c. not already occupied by the fishermen of B. Bay and by Mr. Wilbuck, should be set apart, by an order in Council for the Citizens of Hamilton in conformity with the prayer of the petition.

For anglers, and for angling purposes alone. — And that spearing for Herring, see my annual

report of the 31. of December last. - and sparing  
 for pike &c. be discontinued for 5 years from the  
 1<sup>st</sup> of March next, and that the Mayor and  
 the other petitioners do enter into, and agree to pay  
 300 dollars, a year to the Fishing department,  
 towards the protection of the fish and fisheries  
 within the said limits, which may be so set  
 a part. - - -

And that you will be pleased to impress  
 upon the Mayor, - the great necessity there will  
 be on his part to assist me in stopping sab-  
 bath breaking - and fishing in the bay on  
 Sundays - within the City limits, a thing I had  
 to apply to his Honor for last summer. - - -

And I do think an embargo, should be also  
 laid, on Mels<sup>3</sup>. Basten, Luke and Mak,  
 Thompson, so as not to rent out their boats on  
 Sundays. - - - and that anglers must strictly  
 conform to observe the Fisheries laws, rules, and  
 regulations. -

The Noble  
 Ministers of Marine  
 and Fisheries - Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
 John W. Kerr  
 Resident.

paid 50¢ for Post office order to  
 Mr. Wm. Hartwick, - Duffins Creek. -  
 and 75¢ for Bank order to Saml<sup>3</sup>  
 Wilmot, New Castle, Ont. for \$300. -  
 postage 11¢. - - -



My dear Sir,

Your few words of a letter is just received. - I shall be in Fort Erie, very soon, when the result of the Fisheries department at Ottawa respecting the Fort Erie fisheries in the Niagara River there, will be communicated to you by me. -

Yours Truly,

John W. Kerr

Mr John Warratt,  
Fisherman.

Fort Erie, Post Office.

J. Ouelgee Postage  
Hamilton Onto 3¢

9. February 1874.

My dear Sir,

Your letter to me has been received also your letter to James Simpson Esq<sup>r</sup> Merchant here - which is quite unnecessary. - - As regards the fishing occupied by you last year, in the Niagara River at Fort Erie, and to which those letters have reference, you will still hold on to all the places where you hauled and fished in last season, until I come down and fix matters, which I hope will not be far distant. - -

In the mean time please let me know if any fishing, beside hook fishing at the old fort is being carried on at present. -

If you can fish, why fish away until I come down, retaining possession of the ground direct from me as all previous claims have out, and terminated on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December last,

Yrs Truly,

John W. Kerr.

J. Ouelgee.

Hamilton, Onto.

9. Feb 1874.

George Hutton,  
Fisherman,  
Fort Erie, P. Office.

P.S. make me an offer of rent - and to fish two seines, at so much \$.  
and to fish only one seine, at so much \$.

J. W. Kerr



My dear Sir,

I have just received your letter, in which you say: you sent me a letter on the 2<sup>d</sup>. of January last, which I have not received. -  
 Crockett's licence of the Fishery on Turkey Pt<sup>3</sup> expired on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December last, when all claim you may have purchased from him also then expired with that licence. - - Fishermen have only power of, and over a licensed fishery so long as his licence is in existence, but no longer, so that your statement that you are still owning the same fishing station, you bought from Crockett, does not now, amount to anything. - - -

I have referred the case to the Department at Ottawa, and when the result is made known to me will immediately communicate the result to you. - - -

In the mean time, and until the result is made known to me by the Fisheries department, you cannot occupy the Fisheries station referred to any longer. - As regards Crockett's house and premises, which you purchased from him, I cannot in any way interfere with it, because it does not come under my superintendence. -

I shall come up as soon as I hear from Ottawa. -

Yours truly,  
 John W. Kerr

D. Dufferin  
 Hamilton, Onto.

9. February 1874.

Postage,

34

Mr. W. H. Kerr,  
 Turkey Pt<sup>3</sup>  
 Homestead P. Office.

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to find  
herewith a post office order for One Hundred  
dollars. -- This amount you will please  
apply in paying off M<sup>rs</sup> Gordon, yourself  
and Coy, for protecting the Salmon in Duffin's  
Creek, last October and November, when  
spawning there. --

Believe me Yours truly

John Wilkes

Overseer,

Hamilton, Onto

12. February 1874

Postage 3¢ & Registry 2¢

Mailed 13. Feb, 1874.

W<sup>m</sup> Hartick Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Guardian  
Duffin's Creek,

My dear Sir,

Your letters of the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> instant,  
have been received by me, together with all the  
vouchers appertaining thereto. --

In obedience to your desire, please find herein  
a cheque on the Montreal Bank at Port Hope, for  
three Hundred dollars. -- I shall forward all  
the vouchers to Ottawa, this week. --

I would have sent your cheque sooner  
only, I perceived by the News paper you  
had gone to New York,

And so believe me,

Yours Obediently,

John Wilkes

O. Overseer,

Hamilton, Onto

16. Feb: 1874.

Samuel Wilmot Esq<sup>r</sup>

J. Officer

New Castle Onto

Bank cheque 75¢ Post office Order  
Postage & Registry 5¢

Sunday 22. February 1874.

At St. Catharines, to make enquiry respecting illegal fishing, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 3. p. m. Miles 20. Horse and sleigh 2.00. C. J. Kerr - with me.

Sir,

2<sup>d</sup> March 1874.

I have the honor to apply to you for the usual Annual fishing license in the name of Joseph Woodruff Esq<sup>r</sup> President of the Game Club, St. Catharines. - for leave to fish in the 12, 15, and 16 Mile creeks, and Ponds, and in the Welland Canal, from Port Dalhousie up to Lock No: 2, &c. &c. &c. ...

For your guidance please refer to the copy of the License I sent you on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May 1873. ---

Will you be pleased to find Sheriff Woodruff's application &c. herewith. -

I Have &c. &c. &c.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister,  
&c. &c. &c.

Ottawa...

John W. Starr,  
Overseer. -

St. Catharines. - -

February 20<sup>th</sup> 1874. -

My dear Kerr.

I send you report of our Game Club. - We will still continue the Lease for this same as last year. - - -

Very truly

Joseph A. Woodruff.

My dear Sir,

Please find herewith your white fish  
gill net Boat License . . .

Also your seine hauling &c. License for the 20,  
mile pond. - Let me know if any one is fishing  
in the 15, or 16 mile ponds. -

Mr Richard Gilbert  
"Fisherman"

Middleport on L. M. Ry. -  
Jordan P. Office. -  
Onto. -

And Oblige

John W. Kerr,

Ouelgee.

Postage 2¢

My dear Sir,

Will you please find herewith  
your seine hauling Stationary, and pike gill net  
fishing license for that portion of Toronto Bay  
Black House, and Blackhouse Point, same  
as the year just ended. . .

Yours truly,

John W. Kerr,

Ouelgee. -

Hamilton - Onto.

1<sup>st</sup> January 1874.

Mr Patrick Gray. -

122, Corner of Brillon  
and Sherburne Streets. -

Toronto. -

Postage 3¢.



Monday, 2. March 1874. - -  
 # at Toronto, Port Union and back to Toronto again, and saw Alexander Macnab Police Magistrate about the damage and injury done to Mr P. Gray's fishery on the Island in Toronto Bay, went out at 8. a. m. came in at 8½, p. m. Miles 80. By fare \$2.40, dinner, tea, and bed \$

Tuesday, 3. March 1874,

# at Toronto, saw Mr Macnab, Mr Metcalf, the Mayor, and Mr Bell - Chairman of the Water Works Commissioners - who promised to bring the case of damage and injury complained of by Mr P. Gray, before the meeting of the Commissioners to be held same evening. - - Mr Bell seemed to enjoy the matter himself very much. - - Saw James K. Kerr, and Captain Price about the protection of game. - The Captain gave me a letter to his brother Albert Price M. P. P.; but although I searched diligently for him I could not find him. - thence home. - Went out at 9. a. m. came in 10.30, p. m. Miles 54. By fare \$1.30. Cab 2.00, breakfast dinner and tea \$, - -

Friday, 6. March 1874,

# at B. beach, got names of persons who intend to fish for pike gill nets, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. Miles 26. H. and buggy. - 2.50. dinner 50. See my report. - - of 9. March 1874. - C. J. Kerr

Sir,

5, March 1874,

I have the honor to send you herewith, vouchers from No. 1, to No. 9, inclusive covering the amount of \$465 dollars, applied in paying Guardians for protecting the Salmon Creeks in connection with the Government Fish Breeding Establishment, at Newcastle, Ontario, ending 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 1873. -

The Hon: the Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries

Ottawa,

I Have &amp;c,

John W. Kerr

Overseer.

My dear Sir -

Being in Toronto on yesterday, I called at your lodgings in Mercer Street, at the Club, and the House of Parliament, several times to see you, but was unfortunate in not finding you. - - -

My object was in connection with the Game Law Act you had passed some time ago. - - - In a conversation I had with Mr James K. Kerr of Blake Kerr and Boyd - Solicitors, I was advised to see you with the object of getting appointed by the Local Government - Toronto - in connection with my position as Overseer of Fisheries to protect the Game of Ontario. - - -

Mr Kerr, informed me he would see you himself, on the subject, and that he would also see the Government, and endeavour to get me the appointment. - - -

I had a letter from Captain Price on this subject, which failing to see you I handed to a messenger for you. - - -

I need hardly tell you how essential it is to carry out and enforce the provisions of your Game Law Act. - hence why I address you. -

Before Confederation was effected, it was part of my duty to protect the Game. -

Albert Price Esq  
M. P. P. - Toronto

4 March 1874,

John W. Kerr

Overseer of Fisheries

My dear Sir,

Your letter just received, send me ten dollars, and I will get you a license to fish. Licenses must be obtained from Ottawa just before any person can fish. -

Yours truly,

Schubert

Deputy

Hamilton, Onto.

7. March 1874.

Mr Wm Montgomery

61. Prince St

Toronto,

John Jussell  
Toronto. -

My dear Sir,

Your letter is just received; by orders and regulations from Ottawa; I am forbidden to issue any license in future myself. -

The rule is - to send down a copy of the license and the money, when the original license is sent me to countersign, - As soon however as you send me the money, you may commence fishing. - Believe me

Very truly yours

Schubert

Deputy

Hamilton Onto

7. March 1874,

Wm Cowan Esq

Pickering

Port Union P. Office.

My dear Sir,

I will be up to see you all next week -  
Having orders and permission, I will give you what  
you require . . .

I had a letter from Peter Price on this  
Subject a few days ago . . .

Yours truly,

John W. Kerr

Oversee

Hamilton, Onto.

7. March 1874.

Mr James Ferris,

Turkey Point,

Horseshoe Point Post Office,

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter containing  
your dollars - which I sent forward - I shall be  
at Port Bruce soon when I will endeavour to  
fix the grounds to your satisfaction, - being author-  
ized by the Fisheries department to do so. -  
However! keep this quietly to yourself until I come  
up myself. - Please let me know if Jacob  
Berdan is at the port. -

Just take what you require until I come  
up! -

Yours truly,

John W. Kerr

Oversee

7. March 1874.

Mr W. J. Adams. -

Port Bruce,



My dear Moon,

Will you be so good as to find out for me who are fishing at Strachan's Bay. -- I was sorry to find you from home the other day. -- Are your friends going to fish their little seine this year. -- Do you want to set pike gill nets in the Miland Creek this spring, if so, please let me hear from you at once. --

Yours truly  
John W. Kerr

Joseph Moon Esq  
Port Union, --  
Ont.,

Orangetown  
Hamilton, Ont.

7. March 1874,

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter with enclosure of ten dollars, and have sent to Ottawa for Original License for you. --

Will allow you to extend your nets to 4,000 yards. -- When you see Mr John Morley, please tell him to send me his last year's license when he sends me his license fee. --

Yrs truly  
John W. Kerr

Mr James Simmonds,  
Puritan Hotel,  
Leslieville P. Office. --

Orangetown  
Hamilton, Ont.

9. March 1874,

My dear Sir,

9. March 1874.

I am just in receipt of your application to rent the fisheries in the Grand River, between York, and Indiana, in the County of Stoddard, upon the same terms as ~~Mr~~ Russell of ~~the~~ Healy, rented them last year.

Please send me ten dollars, and I shall recommend your application to be granted forthwith. - And in doing so, define the limits accurately, so that I may insert the same in the copy of the license I have to send to Ottawa, in order to get for you the original license. - Unless this is correctly inserted in the license you will have trouble. - - -

Please inform me if it is your intention to stop some hauling, not fishing, and by ~~any~~, between the limits alluded to, altogether. - - -

State the distances from point to point, and describe the waters accurately so that the Majesty of the Law may be vindicated and upheld, should intruders invade your licensed territory. - - -

I will send you a copy of the Act, and regulation with your license. -

Believe me Very Truly Yours,  
 Adam A. Davies Esq<sup>r</sup>  
 York. - John W. Kerr  
 Quebec.

Sir,

9. March 1874,

Will you be pleased to find herewith Bank Cheque No. 140. for the sum of fourteen dollars. - This amount you will please apply as follows: -

1. Mr George Whyte of Whitley, for License for this current year, same as last year. 5.00.
  2. Mr W. J. Adams, of Port Bruce, Lake Erie, on acct of License for year 1874. 4.00.
  3. Mr William Jagg, of Brantford, for License in that portion of Barbary, in part of his own farm, - for this current year (1874.) 5.00
- Total, \$ 14.00.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
Minister,  
Ottawa,

I have &c.  
John Kerr,  
o.

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your kind favour of the 8<sup>th</sup> of February, for which I thank you most sincerely. - I shall run down, and see you very shortly. - Please continue to keep a record of what is going on in the fishing line for me. -

Believe me Very truly Yrs  
John Kerr

Mr P. C. Barry  
Dunville M. Office.

o,  
9. March 1874,

My dear Sir,

On Tuesday last, after I was speaking to you, I hunted for Mr. Albert Phillips, M. P. P., but was unable to find him. - On my arrival home I wrote him, and now send you copy and his reply to my letter. - - -

If you get me this appointment, I can begin at once my active duties in connection with my position as Overseer of Fisheries. - - -

The fact is game of the various kinds is at this present time being exhibited for sale (illegally) in all the towns and Cities of Ontario, because no person is appointed by the Local Government to enforce this law. - - -

I am satisfied in my own mind you have only to ask for the appointment for me and get it. - When once in the hands I shall prove myself, by my active exertions worthy of your kind consideration. - - -

Believe me with due respect, -

Your Obedient Servant,

John W. Kerr.

H. Ouellet.

Hamilton, Ont.

9. March 1874.

James H. Kerr Esq.  
Barrister at Law,  
He. He. He.  
Toronto, -

Postage 33¢



Sir,

9. February 1874.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> of January last, with enclosed documents, which I have heard are from John M. Currey Esq<sup>r</sup> a Marriester &c. at St<sup>h</sup> Catharines, and which has reference to half an acre of land situated (some where) on the Niagara River at Queenston Heights, in the township of Niagara, and County of Lincoln, leased for a mill site to Mess<sup>rs</sup> Asa Hayton, Stephen Merrick, and James Secord for 999 years, from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July 1796. and which after passing through other hands has now <sup>it is said</sup> come into the occupancy of Mr John Wadsworth of Queenston and which the latter avers he is now desirous of carrying out the intention of the original lessees by building (the) a mill on the premises. "A thing that I declare to you most truthfully is impracticable". - Why to explain matters to you the place referred to is on the Niagara River at Queenston south of where, and is still to be found and seen the wreck of the old Susp<sup>n</sup> Bridge there and from the edge of the River back and up on the Heights to the west boundary of this 1/2 acre it is upwards of 200 feet above the River, and from the Roadway of the Old Susp<sup>n</sup> Bridge it is about 150 feet, down a steep precipice; - How difficult then you will please observe it would be to get material there to build a mill, and more difficult still to carry on Milling after it was built. -

To build a mill in this place for the purposes described in Mr J. M. Currey's letter, instead of being a Convenience to that part of the County, would be entirely the reverse, Besides seventy eight years having nearly elapsed since the original lease was granted proves most satisfactorily the truth of my assertion,

See page 293.

Sir,

9. March 1874,

I have the honor to apply to you in behalf of the undersigned fishermen, for a license to fish pike gill nets in that portion of B. Bay, as described in the annexed License. . . . .

The ice in this portion of the Bay, has already commenced to break up. - The names, and quantity of pike gill nets, are as follows: -

1. John Saffa,	400 yards - pike gill nets.
2. Daniel McGwynne	500. " " " "
3. Alexander Kella,	400. " " " "
4. Wm. Rodkins. -	200, " " " "
5. Richard Saffa. -	400. " " " "
6. Thomas Martin.	200, " " " "
7. G. H. Corey. -	600, " " " "
8. Alexander Gray. -	200. " " " "
9. David Fitch. -	350. " " " "
10. Benj <sup>m</sup> . Folds. -	400, " " " "
11. Thomas Armstrong,	400, " " " "
12. Morris Corey. -	200. " " " "
13. Jonathan Corey. -	350. " " " "
14. Mortimer Corey. -	250. " " " "
15. Duncan McGillivray. -	200, " " " "

I propose to charge each fisherman, one dollar per 100 yards. - So that you can if you approve, fill up fifteen original licenses from this communication and send them to me at once to countersign.

It is upwards of 2 months since the fishermen caught fish of any kind, those licenses you will perceive are anxiously looked for. -

Hon: Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.,  
John W. Kerr  
O.

See back at 291.

There is 921, years of this old lease referred to, still unexpired, and Queenston and the surrounding country will not reap any convenience from the Mill the Wadsworth proposes to build. -- He does not intend to build any Mill there, so that it is futile in the survey endeavouring to mislead. --

I was called upon by you on the 21<sup>st</sup> of May 1869, to report on an application made by John Wadsworth. -- Please refer to my report thereto, herewith. --

The locality is exactly where the British forces under General Sir Isaac Brock, drove the American forces over the Heights into the Niagara River below. --

I strongly recommend that the Department will not grant nor give attention to such an impracticable subject. -- John Wadsworth, is troublesome, and irritable, and only desires to annoy the fishermen referred to, in the annexed report herewith. --

The Hon.  
Minister of Marine  
& Fisheries - Ottawa.

I have &c.

John W. Kerr  
Surgeon.

Postage Toronto 3¢  
St. William's 3¢



Sir,

12. March 1874.

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque  
No: 150, for the sum of Twenty dollars. . .

This sum you will please apply as follows; for this current year;

1. James Simmonds. License to fish in Lake Ontario, for  
year 1874. ("4,000 Yards.") all the rest same as last years  
license. . . See 15. Sep: 1873. . . 10.00.

2. Adam A. Davis Esq. of York, a License  
to fish in the Grand River between the village  
of Indiana, and York, for current year a  
copy of License herewith. . . 10.00.

Total. - \$ 20.00

Hon: Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

I Have the  
pleasure to  
oversee.

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 9<sup>th</sup> instant, just re-  
ceived. . . By an order from the fishing de-  
partment at Ottawa, dated the 1<sup>st</sup> of May last,  
I cannot allow you to fish until you first  
send me your license fee. - On getting your  
money I will at once apply and get your  
license jointly or otherwise as you may de-  
termine. . . The whole amount for White fish,  
Salmon Trout, and Herring gill net fishing  
will be only twenty dollars, for you both  
for the whole year, - so send on your  
money at once, as I cannot do anything  
better for you. - Believe me

Very truly Yours  
John W. Kerr.

Mfrs

Thomas Mansfield.

William A. Stewart.

Frederick W. May.

Kamarton P. Office.

Reufers.  
Hamilton, Onto.

12. March 1874



My dear Sir,

I received a letter from James Peck, applying for a license to fish in front of Duffin Creek in Lake Ontario, and that if I granted him a license, he had an opportunity of purchasing a seine. Upon consideration, and on reference to the Pecks past defaults, and taking into account the fishery Act with reference to Rivers where Salmon frequent to spawn. - See sub section 10. of Section 7. of the Fisheries Act. - -

And By Circular dated 1<sup>st</sup> of May, last, a copy of all licenses have to be submitted to the department, before the original license is issued. - What good reason I ask you, can I now give that James Peck should get a renewal of a license in front of the Salmon River at Duffin Creek. - I have no reason to assign whatever, so please inform him that he cannot have the license he has written to me for! -

Have you received the post office order, I sent you for the 100 dollars - please write and tell me if there is anything new about the Salmon taken from the Creek last November.

I have been told for a fact, that some of those persons who were allowed by you to catch suckers in Duffin Creek last May were of the party who took some Salmon out of the Creek last October and November, feel bound continuously, you may be able to hear something more of this subject.

Believe me Very Truly Yrs

John W. Kerr.

Deafes.  
Hamilton, Ont.

12. March 1874.

Wm Hartick Esq  
Guardian  
Duffin Creek,

P.S. If Jim Peck was allowed to fish, we  
would not have a Salmon in the creek next  
fall, remember me kindly to Mr Bunting. -  
yrs J. W. Kerr

My dear Sir,

13. March 1874.

Your kind letter received, many thanks for the  
fish, when they arrive. -

My object in asking for last years license was to  
make out this years license similar to it. -

By a Circular dated the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May last, I  
have to send to Ottawa, a copy of all licenses and the  
license fee, when the department send me up the original  
license to countersign and deliver, hence the reason why  
I apply to you - My kind respects to you all !!.  
Is any one fishing, but Simmonds. -

Mr John Morley.

Howay P.O.

East of Toronto Onto

yrs Truly

John W. Kerr

Postage 15¢

Sir,

18. March 1874,

I have the honor to send you herewith applications for three licenses for this current year. --- Copy of each license please find herewith. ---

1. James Harris, of Turkey point. -
2. James Lerose of Turkey point. -
3. Frank Jackson, of Turkey point.

Will you be pleased to let me have the originals, as soon as possible. ---

Money will be sent you very shortly. -

I Have &c

John W. Kerr

Hon: Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries  
Ottawa.

Monday, 16. March 1874. -

At Hamilton, Caledonia, Jarvis, Simcoe and Turkey point, measured off the four fisheries on the front of Turkey point, went out at 8. a. m. came in at 7. p. m. - Miles 68, Ry fare  $1.45$ , Team  $3.00$ , dinner supper and bed  $1.50$ , tolls  $20$ . - - - Bill Holmes fished three times - No license. - - - Total  $\$5.40$

Tuesday, 17. March 1874. - -

At James Harris - Turkey point, the ice was so bad could not get out to stake off the stations gave description of James Harris, and Snacks middle house, thence back to Jackson, Simcoe Jarvis, Caledonia and home, went out at 5. a. m. came in at 8. p. m. Miles - 40. - - Board &c.  $1.25$ . H. & Buggy  $2.00$ . Ry fare  $1.45$ .  
4.70.



Sir,

18, March 1874,

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 13. instant, requesting me to supply the department "as soon as possible with a list of the fishways, &c existing in my division, giving a short description of each, the locality, dimensions, and effectiveness, of each structure, during the past season" -

In reply, I have the honor to report for your information that no fishways were constructed during the past season in any river or creek situated in any part of my division. ---

This season however, I expect several will be put in the Mill dams of Smiths Creek or River Hith, and in the dams of the Grand River. ---

The Notices for the Mill dam owners of River Hith being received by me too late last year to serve <sup>to have</sup> the construction of the same carried into effect. ---

The Grand River Notices are applied for by me to you. -  
 Hon. Minister of  
 Marine and Fisheries,  
 Ottawa.

I Have &c.

Johill W. Steers.

Wednesday 18, March 1874

To the Bank, got cheque 160. for \$70, sent same to Ottawa, went out at 11.30 a.m. Came in at 1. p.m. Miles 10, At B: 1.25. - By depot - part of B. pay. - -



Sir

18. March 1874.

I have the honor to send you herewith  
cheque No: 160, for the sum of Seventy dollars,-  
which you will please apply as follows:

1. William Snook, License fee for Station  
No: 1, at Turkey point, in Lake Erie for this  
current year. Copy of license here <sup>20</sup>/<sub>100</sub> 20.00.
  2. William Snook, license fee for  
Station No: 4, at Turkey point, in  
Lake Erie, for this current year. Copy of  
license herewith. — 10.00.
  3. W<sup>m</sup> Snook, as per Copy of license  
herewith for current year. — 20.00
  4. John Morley. License fee for cur-  
rent year, Copy herewith 15.00.
  5. W<sup>m</sup> Bowman, License fee for current  
year, Copy of License herewith. — 5.00
- Total \$70.00

Hon. Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
John W. Kerr  
&c.

Thursday, 19, March 1874. —

Went to Lakes - thence with my son Fred & through  
the ice in May to the beach. Seized four  
pieces of fish gill net. I found set in the bay,  
three pieces belonged to John Bates, and one  
piece to John Laake. got fish in them - gave  
the fish to John Davis to sell for the Fisheries  
department. Went out at 9 a.m. came in  
at 8.30 p.m. Horse & buggy 2.50, dinner for  
two 50¢, Boatman 1.50, miles 24. — Home  
by City of Hamilton. Received 15 Licenses to  
fish gill nets in B. bay. — — — 3.00

B. Man 1.50 separate

My dear Sir,

I have just received from you another letter of application for a license to fish - As I said before send me ten dollars, tell me where and what amount of net, and the kind you want to fish - and I will at once apply for a license for you - Until that is done you cannot fish - I have no power to allow you nor Bill McKen to fish without a license - And I will not deviate one iota from the Circular of the 1<sup>st</sup> of May last, laid down for my guidance. - This is my decision for all time to come. -

There is no use in trying to move me from what is right, to what is wrong. -

Yours Truly,  
John W. Kerr

Mr.  
Thomas Mansfield  
Frenchmans Bay,  
Aurubarton, P. Office  
Onto.,

Super.  
Hamilton, Onto.,  
23, March 1874.

Friday, 20, March 1874,  
At Os. beach, - issuing licenses - got in for  
there 32 dollars - went out at 8. a. m. to  
Hamilton - thence home and on to Os. beach,  
came in at 5 p. m. Miles 26. 44 Bay  
# 2.50, Dinner for two 50, - - C. J. Kerr,

My dear Sir. -

I am just in receipt of your letter of the 18<sup>th</sup> instant with fifteen dollars, for the Messrs Merdau, and Kontze, they will have to pay five dollars more. - -

When at Ottawa, last December, I was instructed to charge each of the Seines grounds at Port Bruce ten dollars, - and to give to Adams a little more frontage. - - This the department thought reasonable, because he has lived at Port Bruce for a long time, while Kontze and Merdau are only recently come there. - - -

I shall explain matters to you and to all when I come up. -

Yrs Paternally,

L. Childers,

Oswego,

Hamilton, Ont.

23. March 1874.

Captain Thomas Thompson. -

Port Bruce, -

Lake Erie. -

† Saturday 21. March 1874. - -

at Railway wharf, making enquiries from Matthew Thompson about gill net fishermen went out at 8. a. m. came in at 6. p. m. - - - 12. 14. B. 2.00 -

My dear Sir,

It is entirely out of my power to comply with your request for the simple reason that other persons have already applied for what you now ask me to give you a privilege in - please ask Mr. W. L. Bourne - if he complies with your request, I have no objection. - - -

Yrs Sincerely,

John W. Kerr

Manager

23, March 1874,

J. J. Lasky Esq  
for Union -  
Onto

On Sunday - 22<sup>d</sup> March 1874, John Bates, and John Eagle - made application at my house, for the pike nets I seized stating the nets were their property. -

Monday 23, March 1874. -

At B. beach, gave up pike gill nets, to John Bates and John Eagle taking a receipt therefor - John each, went out at 6. P. M., came in at 12, Mid = night, Miles 24, At B. beach 2.50. - Fred K. Kerr with me, could not get into the Bay, it was so stormy, the March being frozen over. - Sea fog



Sir,

23. March 1874,

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank Cheque No: 299, for the sum of forty seven dollars, to be applied for pike gill net licenses in a portion of O. bay, which is to terminate on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May next. -- Very truly,

1. Jonathan Corey. --	License fee. --	\$ 4.00.
2. Alexander Kolla. --	do. --	4.00.
3. David Gitch. --	do. --	4.00.
4. Duncan McGillivray. --	do. --	4.00.
5. Alexander Gray. --	do. --	5.00
6. John Laaffe. --	on a/c <sup>t</sup> do. --	2.00.
7. Thomas Martin. --	do. --	1.00.
8. John Bates. --	do. --	4.00.
9. W <sup>m</sup> L. Hodge	do. --	4.00
10. Messrs. Jacob Berdan, and Ferdinand Kottke, on a/c <sup>t</sup> of a license to fish in Lake Erie, at Port Bruce, for this current year. Copy of license will be sent to you shortly. --		15.00

The Hon. Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

Total, \$ 47.00.  
I have &c.  
John W. Kerr  
O.

Set.

23. March 1874.

I have the honor to report for your information that on Thursday last I seized about 500 yards of pike gill nets I found set in O. Bay, the property of John Gault and John Bates, fishermen who have since received their licenses and paid for them. . . . I intend returning these nets to the said parties this day, and which I hope will meet your approbation. . . .

I have taken into account, that I had applied for those pike gill net licenses on the 7. instant. . .

I Have &c  
John W. Kerr  
o.

Hon. Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

Tuesday, 24 March 1874,  
at Toronto, Gensell paid me 10<sup>¢</sup> license  
fee. - and W. J. Hardy paid me 10<sup>¢</sup> license fee,  
saw Sen. Marsh, - heard of pike gill nets  
being set in the Bay, - went out at 8  
a. m. came in at 6 p. m. Miles 96 - Pay  
fare 2.60<sup>¢</sup> - Horse & Pay to Beach 2.50, dinner  
50<sup>¢</sup> thence to the beach, and saw  
David Hitch on Seining &c in lots frozen  
up. Could not get in there with a  
boat - came in at 12 M night Dr. Kerr  
with me 1<sup>½</sup> - Total 5.60<sup>¢</sup>

Hamilton,

My dear Sir,

I was in Toronto, on yesterday, when I heard from Dick Hill and Mr Doyle, that you had commenced fishing, having bought \$20. worth of pike gill nets. Now Mr William Ward I please send me \$10. license fee at once, or give it to Mr Doyle for me. I cannot make any reduction. -

Yrs truly  
John W. Kerr,  
Oversee.  
25. March 1874. -

Mr William Montgomery,  
Toronto. -

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to send me your license fee - five dollars - describe the lake frontage and extent you want to fish in at Port Stanley - in Lake Erie, and I will obtain for you a season license - be prompt in the matter; -

Yrs truly  
John W. Kerr  
Oversee  
Hamilton Onto.  
27. March 1874.

Mr James R. Burwell  
Pt. Stanley.  
Post Office.

Sir,

25. March 1874,

I have the honor to send you herewith cheque No: 169 - for the sum of forty dollars. ---

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows; sending me the original licenses for immediate delivery. ---

1. William Hardy - Boat License to fish 600 yards of pike gill net, in Ashbridges bay, which is situated in front of the eastern limits of the City of Toronto, in the County of York; Commencing at Goderhams wharf, thence east through the Ashbridges Marsh, direct to Morans wharf, in front of Leslieville - distance about 2 miles - 10.00,
2. John Funnell, - do - 800 yards, - do. do. - 10.00,
3. Messrs Charles Abraham, and H. J. Birch, to pay fishing license of Stations Nos: 18, and 19, in Lake Ontario, and Stations Nos 1, and 2, in B. bay, near the canal on B. beach, in the township of Saltfleet, and South Riding of Newmarket, for the current year. --- X 20.00

Total \$40.00.

Both licenses to be the same as those issued by you to H. J. Birch last year, in compliance with my application of the 21. of August last.

I may here state for your information that there is no intention whatever on the part of the applicants to fish any in the Bay. -

As they own the beach in front of the fishing grounds - they desire to have a fishing controlling power over the waters. -

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr,  
OverseerHon: Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,

Ottawa.



My dear Sir,

I am just in receipt of your note of the 25<sup>th</sup> instant, I am glad to hear you have got rid of the Rheumatism. . . .

Get your ply Arms five dollars, and send it to me at once, and I will send down to Ottawa, and get up his license for him. . . .

Give me a description of where he intends fishing, not of course interfering with the Dutchman. And send me Mr Arms's Christian name, so that I can put it in the copy of the license I have just to send down to get up the original license. . . .

Laskey wanted to catch a few pike in Highland Creek. - And as you don't want it, he may do so, please tell him from me he may do so, and relieve the few little salmon there of their deadly enemy. - Please refer to Section 15. of the Fishing Act. -

Believe me very Sincerely  
Joseph Moon Esq<sup>r</sup> of John W. Kerr  
Port Union, P.O. D. O.  
Scarborough. -

28. March 1874.

My dear MacDonough. —

Your note of the 26<sup>th</sup> instant is just received: and had I not heard from you on the subject you write about: I would have written you to say; that no spearing for pike nor any other kind of fish will be allowed any more in Dundas Marsh. — and my instructions from the fisheries department, Ottawa, is strictly enforce the law in this respect. — Neither will netting of any kind be permitted therein, so that you will greatly oblige me to keep a watchful look out for me, and if contravention of the Fisheries Act happen. — please act for me as you have done heretofore at full, and half of the fines and costs will be yours. —

By a letter published in the Hamilton Times a few days ago, this matter you ask for information on, was fully and forcibly communicated for the information of the public. — both Dundas, and Hamilton in reply to petitions from the Mayors &c. &c. of the town of Dundas, and City of Hamilton. — Except angling alone; no other catching or killing of pike or any other fish will be permitted in Dundas Marsh, the Canal or creeks there, or running into it. — So you will please observe you will have a wide field to aid me in. —

As regards the speckled trout, the just pike case you have, you and I, can lay down a plan of future action. —

Believe me, My dear Mac: —

Yours as always,

Thomas MacDonough Esq<sup>r</sup>  
 Chief Constable,  
 Town of Dundas. —

J. W. Kerr  
 J. O.

28. March 1874.

York, 26. March 1874,  
My dear Sir.

I have been told to-day that several parties have been hauling seines below dam No. 1. - or what is known as Mount Steady dam. I don't want to interfere without some authority. - Could you send me a Certificate till such time as the License arrives. -

A man named Shipway says he has already got a license, but I don't believe a word of it. - I sent you the money on the 9<sup>th</sup> hoping to hear from you soon I am  
J. W. Kerr Esq<sup>r</sup> Yours truly  
Hamilton, - A. A. Davis.

Read, Copied, and submitted for the Minister's information - His license issued to Shipway - no other man.

28. March 1874.

John W. Kerr

Recd sec

Sir,

28. March 1874.

With reference to my letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> day of March instant, in which I sent you ten dollars, applying at the same time for a license to fish in certain places in the Lake of the same being in the County of Haldimand, for Adam A. Davis Esq<sup>r</sup> of York. -

The annexed letter just received from Mr. Davis will tell for itself. - If the Minister wants any information as regards this applicant, David Thompson Esq<sup>r</sup> M. P. for the County of Haldimand can satisfy him. -

I recommend that this license do if =  
See forthwith  
Hon: Minister &c, &c. I Have &c  
&c. A. A. Davis  
John W. Kerr  
o.



My dear Sir,

28. March 1874,

I have just received your letter telling me, that persons are spearing in the Credit, but you do not give any names. - I want the names from you, so that I may take proceedings against them. - -

Moreover, no other person has a licence to fish this year in the Credit. - -

Why! you must have been mistaken - I have <sup>twice</sup> written to you since October last,

Send me the names of all applicants who want to fish - And I will send down their names to Ottawa - immediately for licences. - I will be down perhaps on Tuesday next, so look out for me. -

Yours James G. Wilcox  
Port Credit,

Yr truly  
John Kerr  
Ottawa.

Wednesday, 25, March 1874, - -  
at the depot. - thence to B. beach  
found all regular, went out at 9,  
a.m. came in at 11. p.m. Miles 24. -

C. J. Kerr, 1½ - H & Bay 2.50

Thursday 26, March 1874,  
at Wharfedale - too stormy to go on the  
bay. - went out at 5. p.m. came  
in at 10. p.m. - Miles 12. H & Bay <sup># 4</sup> 2.00.

C. J. and B. Kerr. with me,

Postages 50¢.



My dear Sir,

I am just in receipt of your letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> instant, and have sent it forwarded to Ottawa, this afternoon - urging upon the fishery department there to send your license at once. ---

I applied for your license on the 12, instant, and should have had it before this. - No person has a license to fish in the Grand River within the limits you have applied for. - So that shipwreck is only gassing, I am off to Toronto, on Tuesday - at township council on Monday, but you may expect me at York, some day middle of next week. - -

I send you a copy of regulation in Council, dated 23, August 1870. - which will apply in this case of yours. - I also send you a copy of the Fisheries Act. - - -

Please get for me the names of all those persons who are violating the law, and when I come up, I shall fine them. - As there is no other alternative in the case. - -

I have marked certain sections in the fishery Act, for your information; -

Believe me, Very Truly Yours,  
Adam A. Davis Esq.  
York. -

John W. Kerr  
Ottawa,  
28. March 1874.

Sir,

28. March 1874,

I have the honor to report for your information that on last night about 11. p. m., I seized three pieces of pike gill net, I found set in B. bay - in contravention of the Fisheries Act, and your express order to this effect. - One piece <sup>150 yards</sup> the property of Nathaniel Jones, was set in Jones inlet. - He has no license, it was set completely from one side of ~~the~~ inlet across to the other side. - - Another piece say about 50 yards, was set in Elijah Harris inlet, and was fished there by his son, who had no license. - This gill net was also set from bank to bank, the same as Jones's net was. - - -

A third piece 150 yards was set in Secods inlet, and was run from one side of this inlet to the other, I have not yet ascertained who owned this latter piece of pike gill net. - -

Please see first clause of Sub Section 4, of Section 13, and Sub Section 5 of Section 13, of the Fisheries Act. - -

I may say here in conformity with your letter of the 24<sup>th</sup> instant, that I will be -  
dearous to do my duty up to the letter. -

I Have &amp;c.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

Minister &amp;c. &amp;c.

O Hawa,

John W. Kerr

Deputy,

Sheriff Office - St. Thomas -

J. W. Kerr Esq<sup>r</sup>

25. March 1874.

Fishing Inspector. - Dear Sir,

Hamilton. -

Some years ago, I wrote you in reference to the beach at Port Bruce in this County, owned by my father-in-law Mr. Moore of that place. - He claims under his title to the waters edge and thus feels that persons fishing there, have no right to come on his lands without his licence. -

You replied to my former letter, that you had sent it to Ottawa, and since then have heard nothing only an acknowledgment of its receipt at the proper department. -

Mr. Moore has now leased the whole of his beach to Mr. Ferdinand Kortege, and I presume that he will endeavour to try the right of his occupancy, under said lease. - I therefore consider it right that I should acquaint you of this fact, before you make fishing leases for Port Bruce for the coming season. -

I am &c.

John Munro.

Received - Read - Copied - and submitted with my report thereon to the Hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries -

28. March 1874. -

John W. Kerr  
Deputy

Sir,

28, March 1874.

Will you be pleased to send me, One Hundred dollars, on account of the quarterly expenditure for travelling expenses commencing on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April next, I have a great deal of work before me.

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
Overseer.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries  
Ottawa.

Sir,

28, March 1874.

After I apply for a License to the Department, having just sent you the copy of the license, and while waiting for the receipt of the original license, Can the applicant fish, provided he has paid in his license fee, previously, for this current year. —

Please answer, as several fishermen desire to know the decision of the Department in this matter.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
Overseer.

Friday, 27. March 1874.  
On P. Bay searching for nets - home  
and off to P. beach on Bay again  
Fred M. Cozy, Charles John Kerr and  
Fred Kerr with me seized three  
nets - see my report - went out at  
8. A.M. came in at 2. A.M. miles 40.  
Bent Horses and baggage \$3.00  
Beside boatmen 4.50



Sir -

Sheriff John Munro - of St. Thomas has written me a letter stating that you have leased from Mr Moore, the whole of his beach at Port Bruce, and he adds: "I therefore consider it right that I should acquaint you of this fact, because you make fishing leases for Port Bruce for the coming season."

I have submitted the Sheriff's letter to the department at Ottawa, and until I get an answer thereto, and you get a fishing license, I warn you to fish nor haul no nets in Lake Erie, at Port Bruce in front of the beach you leased from Mr Moore there. . . .

Adams - telegraph me - Konthy leased all the beach and forbid me fishing! - By what right or authority have you to do this? - Most likely your fishing days at Port Bruce have terminated, for while the fishing department and I will respect Mr Lindsay Moore's legal rights at Port Bruce - I shall nevertheless carry out the instructions given me, and as I have already written Captain Thompson, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March last. -

Your plan was to get a license for fishing first, and I may have told you and all concerned above board - that the fisheries at Port Bruce, will never be placed in a position whereby you, nor any other man will be ever in a position to dominate and tyrannize over another fisherman. -

You have leased the beach, but you have got no fishing license yet! - And by Circular dated 1<sup>st</sup> of May last, I have to send a copy of license to the department at Ottawa, before I receive the original license for you - and I have not got it as yet! -

And by the enclosed order in Council you cannot fish without a license, - You see it ~~if~~ <sup>may</sup> become a dupe or tool in some other person's hands. You can't carry it. -

I shall perhaps be told to hand you back your money - and withhold a license from you altogether. - One thing you may rely upon - that peace, quietness, and contentment must be restored amongst the fishermen and all concerned before I will countersign a license for you, or any other fishermen there. - -

I prefer to see the fishing stand still taking the Sheriff's kind hint - that he apprised me, before I would issue licenses for this season. -

I fear Koutze, you have overshoot the mark. - and believe me. -

Herman Koutze  
Fisherman.

Port Bruce.

Your obedient servant,

John W. Kerr

J. W. Kerr

Hamilton, Onto.

2. April 1874

No monopoly will be allowed you, or any other man - No act of oppression -

J. W. Kerr

My dear Sir,

Your kind favour just received,  
Many thanks for your kind attention. - If your son  
will do what you propose - please tell him  
I will thank him for it. -

Let him take the names. -

Thomas Purday will give him all the par-  
ticulars, the names and get the money for me,  
because I must send it first to Ottawa, before  
a license can be procured for them. -

Yrs sincerely, -

John W. Kerr

H. Paulsen,

2, April 1874.

Robt H. Carroll Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Ingersoll,

Monday, 30. March 1874. - - -

On B. bay, up to the Straits, and in Har-  
veys inlet seized about 300 yards of pike  
gill net got 12 pike therein gave them to  
John Davis, fish dealer to sell. - See my report,  
thereon, went out at 8. p. m. came in at 4,  
a. m. - Miles about 24. Boat - 44 Buggy 2.50  
Fred<sup>r</sup> and Charles J. Kerr, <sup>3.00</sup> rowing for me. -

Tuesday, 31. March 1874. - - -

at Toronto, and Toronto Island - David Ward,  
paid his Rent 20<sup>¢</sup> for current year. Billy Monk-  
gomery 10<sup>¢</sup> for do - Wm Apted 2<sup>¢</sup> for do -  
to fish up to 1<sup>st</sup> of May in Ashbridge bay.  
went out 10.30 a.m. came in at 10 p. m.,  
Miles about 50. - Boat 41. 1<sup>st</sup> W<sup>3</sup> 2.00, Ry  
fare 1.30. dinner tea and bed 41. -

also included this quarter

1874 -



Sir,

28, March 1874,

I have the honor to enclose for your information the annexed letter I received from Sheriff Munro, of St. Thomas, touching the beach in front of the seine hauling grounds at Port Bruce, in the township of Yarmouth, and County of Reg. --- As the letter implies, Mr. Lindsey Moore, who lives close by in the township of Malahide, claims the beach which he had partly fenced in when I saw the place last fall, the fence being built as close to the inner edge of Lake Erie, as he deemed safe from the effects of the action of the water to the security and stability of this fence - leaving however sufficient space between this fence and the waters edge, - for the licensed fishermen there to exercise their calling. ---

When at Ottawa last December, I brought under Mr. Whitchers notice the desirability of dividing the fisheries and equalizing them at Port Bruce into three seine hauling grounds of like size, - Mr. Whitcher then acceded to, --- Recently, I sent the department having this object in view, on the 9<sup>th</sup> of March - four dollars on account of W. G. Adams, and on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March, fifteen dollars on account of Messrs<sup>3</sup> Jacob Morden, and Ferdinand Kottge - for the three fishing grounds at Port Bruce. --- By the annexed letter from Colin Munro, it appears Kottge has complied with Mr. Moores terms, - please refer to my letter to the department, dated the 13. day of June 1870. -

I have for some time past, found a desire on the part of Kottge, and Jake Morden to get all the fishing grounds at Port Bruce to themselves to the detriment of Mr. W. G. Adams, they being New Comers, having out the first occupants of the fisheries, I found there in 1870. - Except Mr. Adams, who is an

old



old settlers, and who would not sell out his claim, to the fisheries there nor to the beach. --

I have received a letter from Mr. Adams asking me to come up, as there was something wrong going on: Koutze acting tyrant towards him. -- This I shall do shortly, when I shall measure off the three fisheries (grounds) there, giving the said fisheries out into the lake waters and not on the beach, unless you instruct me to do so. -- John Munro, is Dudley Moore's son-in-law, and his only daughter is Mr. Moore's only heir -- hence Sheriff Munro's interference in the matter. -- Would Mr. Whitaker be pleased to answer Sheriff Munro's letter now submitted for the information of the Minister. --

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
Minister &c. &c.,  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.

John W. Kent  
Ottawa.

Sir

28, March 1874,

after I apply for a license to the department, having just sent you the copy, and while waiting for the receipt of Original license. -- Can the applicant fish -- provided he has paid in his license fee previously for this current year. -- Please answer. --

Hon. Minister  
&c. &c.,  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.

John W. Kent  
Ottawa.

Sir,

30. March 1874.

I have the honor to receive the letter of Mr. G. W. Griffin of Forrestville - with your instructions to report upon the complaint he prefers against me in behalf of William Helmes of Charlottesville, - in which he states that I left word when recently at Turkey point, that Helmes could not have the fishing he had formerly here, but gave part to one Jackson and the other part to one Lerose. - -

These assertions are not correct, in the first place - I measured off the point of John Jacksons ground - from stake to stake on the open beach which is of Crescent shape, and at the urgent request, I submitted Frank Jacksons name as Licensee in room of his father. - In the second place I measured off the footage of the fishing station licensed last year to James Brackett and which Mr. Griffin tells you I gave to one Lerose. - - This assertion is untrue, as I have not given it to Lerose, nor to any person. - I merely sent forward to you, a copy of the license in conformity with Circular of the 1<sup>st</sup> of May last, of this fishing, recommending you to grant it to James Lerose at an advance of 10. a man with a large family of young children, who is the son-in-law of old Mr. John Jackson, and I feel satisfied, Lerose will not fish there, "nor break the law", as Helmes has done, until he receives his license from the Department. - -

When I got to Turkey point, on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March, I found ~~William~~ Helmes had been fishing - notwithstanding my Remonstrance - made three hauls on the ground - without a license - hence the reason why! Helmes kept out of my way. - It is true William Helmes made application for a license I now send you a copy of my reply thereto, for your own information. - -

"When at Turkey point, I left word, I would fine Holmes, for fishing without a license?"

Now with respect to Mr. G. W. Griffin, the Complainant - he is a local Magistrate at Jonesville, in the township of Charlottesville, in the South Riding of Norfolk. - -

and here is what I can tell you of him in his official capacity. - Last summer during white fish close time - the Guardian at St. Williams complained to me that Wm. Snook, James Crockett fishermen, and Mr. Nathan Ward, a fish pedlar, for Snooks, had committed a contravention of the Fisheries Act, - but on their getting wind of it - they posted off, to Mr. G. W. Griffin - the Magistrate - complained of themselves, for the offences they had themselves committed, - where he fined them each a trifling sum - but charged them his own full costs, in each case, which they paid him. -

I have a document in my possession, which I received since from Wm. Snook, shewing these particulars,\* but can not lay my hands on it, or I would send it to you.\* -

I cannot therefore recommend Mr. Holmes for this fishing station at Turkey point. -

I Have &c.

Hon. Minister,  
&c. &c. &c.  
Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
or,

P. S. - \*The document is herewith.\*

J. W. Kerr.

please refer to my report of 6<sup>th</sup> of June last. -

J. W. Kerr  
or,



Sir,

31, March 1874,

In reply to your letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> instant, reverting to my report of the 19, January last, in which I recommended "that the license formerly issued in the name of James Crockett at Turkey point, be granted to James Larose." --- You say, I beg to refer herewith for your report a letter received from Mr. Helmer, complaining that he is deprived of the fishing privilege formerly licensed to Crockett after acquiring the latter's property. ---

And you say again! - please state in your report whether the Helmers made an application to you for the fishing in question - also to whom the land belongs; and if another person can occupy the shore &c, without encroaching on the premises said to have been bought by Helmer from Crockett.

I have the honor to report, that you will please find herewith my report upon the letter you received from Mr. Helmer, complaining that he is deprived of the fishing privilege formerly licensed to Crockett after acquiring the latter's property. --- Of course you will find, and I admit that I would not allow him to fish pending your decision - on my report of the 19, January last, or before he received a license. ---

Yes! - Helmer made application to me for the fishing in question - see my admission in the accompanying report herewith. -

The land belongs to the Government - the House is isolated, and stands back from the water's edge of the Lake, about 3. Chains. -

The beach is open to the public from you enter it, at Snook's Fish House



until you go up as far as deep hole point a distance of six miles, and is all Government property. - With I presume two chains reserve all along the entire distance for fishing purposes.

Hon: Ministers  
H. H. H.  
O'Hara,

I Have He,  
John W. Kerr  
oversee,

Sir,

31. March 1874,

I have the honor to report for your information, that at 1 o'clock a.m. this morning, I seized 200 yards - pike gill net, in B. bay, at the Heights. - the license being issued to fish there. -

and I seized 100 yards - set across Harveys Inlet, and which debarred the fish from entering it. - - I got twelve pike therein which I will dispose of, for the benefit of the Department. -

Hon: Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries,  
O'Hara,

I am off to Toronto. -

I Have He,

John W. Kerr  
oversee,

Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> April 1874,  
at the Island - Toronto, and Home, saw  
Mr Alex: Macneil P. Magistrate, about the  
Gays Complaint against John Mintey, Bath,  
Dickey & Co. - thence home - went out at  
8. a.m., went near the Don to enquire  
about the fisheries, came in at 6. p.m.,  
Mile 50. - By fare 1.30, breakfast and  
dinner 75¢, Boat 50. 2.55

Gentlemen. -

1<sup>st</sup> April 1874,

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October last, being then on Toronto Island - Mr Patrick Gray, a fisherman there complained to me, and has frequently complained to me since that you Messrs John Gintey and Nathaniel Dickey - Contractors of the Toronto Water Works - and William Clements, Frank Shook, Zachariah Malston, John Erwin - and Charles Toppin who were then and previously in your employment did, injure and disturb his fishery which he holds under a license from the Department of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa, of that portion of Toronto Bay, where you are now, and they and you were then engaged submerging a pipe for the said Water Works, and which is situated within the limits described in Mr Gray's fishery license in the said Bay of Toronto. -

On yesterday, and today, I was complained to again to the same effect. - when I viewed the premises, and I have now no doubt on my mind, but that you ~~are~~ one and all have committed the offence complained of, and are amenable to the law. -

I have however advised Mr Gray to call on you and talk the matter over in a business like way, so as if possible to arrange the matter amicably amongst yourselves before resorting to either law or litigation,

I Have the Honor to be,

Messrs John Gintey and  
Nathaniel Dickey -  
Toronto.

Gentlemen,  
Your Obedient Servant.  
John W. Kerr  
J. W. Kerr

✓ Thursday, 2, April 1874,  
 at St Catharines - to see Sheriff Woodruff  
 respecting application for renewal of license  
 for current year - also about complaint lodged  
 ag<sup>t</sup> Peter Bath by James Miller - went out  
 at 2 p.m., came in at 10 p.m. Miles 72,  
 #1.25<sup>+</sup> Railway fare - Supper 30¢, Mail 20¢, Cab  
 hire 1.65 - Horse & Boy 1.50, <sup>#</sup> 3.65, <sup>+</sup> 1.25  
 Received 20<sup>¢</sup> from Sheriff - license fee  
 for current year. 10<sup>¢</sup> - from Tom Jones -  
 5 from Bureau of Port Stanley. ---

✓ Saturday, 4, April 1874,  
 at B. beach, - to see J. H. Crey,  
 Bob Hall, Dan McFoyne, Jack Saife  
 on fishing business went out at 6.30 p.m.  
 came in at 10 p.m., - Miles 24. Horse and  
 Wagon - 2.00<sup>¢</sup>, 5<sup>¢</sup> & 2.50  
 Heard that George L. Harris had still  
 two small pieces of Pike gill nets set in  
 Inlet, - Jack Saiffe got back his net, re-  
 ported to be stolen - it was only carried  
 from one side of inlet to the other. ....  
 Supper - 50<sup>¢</sup>, - - -

✓ Monday, 6, April 1874, ---  
 at Caledonia, thence to York. Delivered to  
 Adam A. Davis Esq<sup>r</sup> his license to fish in the  
 Grand River, gave Wm<sup>r</sup> Wilson and Adam A. Davis  
 the notices to build fish ways in dams at York  
 and Donaldsons dam at Mr. Osaley, -  
 gave to Adam, who is Secretary of the  
 Grand River Navigation Company. He prom-  
 ised to bring the matter before the Direct-  
 ors at next meeting, gave notice for



Sir,

4, April 1874,

I have the honor to apply to you for Seine hauling licenses - for Messrs Benjamin Joyce - Benjamin Todd, and Daniel McGwynne - fishermen resident on B. beach - to fish same in certain places as described in the copy of the licenses herewith submitted for your approval. -

As I do not intend recommending any other Seine hauling licenses being granted this year in B. bay, but these three - your other Seine hauling grounds licensed heretofore, being now relinquished the fishing there will be only carried on by the three fishermen now applied for. -

I would respectfully take the liberty of recommending, that those licenses I now apply for, may be granted, to terminate on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of May next. -

Yours faithfully,  
Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries,  
Ottawa

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr,  
Quebec.

Messrs McKinnon & Co. to his Clerk in the grain store in Caledonia, went out at 8 o'clock a. m., came in at 6.50<sup>p.m.</sup>, Miles 44, Ry fare, 50<sup>¢</sup>, dinner 25<sup>¢</sup> Horse & Cutter 2.00, Mail stage 75<sup>¢</sup> 3.50



Sir,

4, April 1874.

With reference to your letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> ult., regarding a license to Mr. W. Bowan, to fish in the neighbourhood of the Rouge in Lake Ontario. - And in which you say; "I am to state that if there is any chance of this man catching Salmon in his nets, this license must not issue." "The proviso <sup>ag<sup>t</sup></sup> it would be of little use." -

In reply, I have the honor to report, that on one occasion - two years ago - Mr. Bowan caught a Salmon, and liberated the fish forthwith. - He fishes only occasionally! for his own family. - He is wealthy. - A warm friend to the fisheries; and I have every confidence in his honor - hence why! - I sent you his application. - - You might put a strong proviso in his license - he will talk of it, - and it will have a good effect. -

Hon. Minister,

H. V. H.

O. H. H.

I have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
Overseer.

P.S. - I have invariably reported everything I have heard of Salmon. - J. W. Kerr

Sir,

4. April 1874,

I have the honor to send you herewith a copy of boat license for leave to fish 400 yards of Herring gill net in B. bay, which I pray and recommend may be granted to the poor Widow Sherburne. - She has got no other kind of net, but that now applied for. - -

I strongly recommend that this license, the last for the bay, - may be granted. -

My communication of this day, regarding Seine hauling grounds, - for Messrs Joyce, Gold, and McFoyne - therein alluded to, and sent you in another cover - for licenses to Seine haul in B. bay - approved of by the Minister, for a portion of the places set apart - please find copies of licenses herewith. - -

I pray and recommend original license to issue for these fishermen.

Hulton: The Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries,  
Ottawa,

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr

O,

Sir,

6 April 1874. -

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank cheque No: 183 - for the sum of fifty dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows: vizt.

1. Joseph Woodruff Esq<sup>r</sup> of St. Catharines, the License of the 12, 13, and 16, Mile Creek, and ponds and the Welland Canal up to Lock No: 2, same as last season - please see my report herewith, - - - \$ 20.00,
2. Messrs<sup>rs</sup> David Ward, Patrick Gray, and George Dorman, on acct of license in Lake Ontario, at Toronto Island - for current year - same as last season. - 20.00,
3. - Wm<sup>m</sup> Montgomery - boat license to fish, 800 yards - pike gill nets, in Ashbridge's Bay, - which is situated in port of the eastern limits of the City of Toronto, County of York - commencing at Goderich's wharf - thence east to Morris wharf in port of Leslieville - Copy of license herewith, - - - 10.00,
4. Benjamin Joyce - license to fish in B: bay near Shant's pond - township of Nelson - up to 24. May, in current year, - \$ 10.00

Total \$60.00,

The Hon: Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries  
Ottawa, -

I Have Vc  
John W. Kerr  
Deputy

Sir,

4. April 1874,

In reply to your letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> ultimo, you say: "I notice you recommended the issue of three licenses in favour of W<sup>m</sup> Brooks of Charlottesville, and amongst those a new one for station No. 4, at Turkey point, Why so many stations to one man! - are any others refused?"

I have the honor to report, that heretofore all the fishing grounds rented to W<sup>m</sup> Brooks on Turkey point, were included in one license, and amongst them, this station No. 4, which you will please find by reference thereto, is not a new one. - - -

When I took charge of Turkey point, old John Jackson, I may say, was the solitary permanent fisherman there, bracket temporary there - after a while Brooks came along: "Difficulties, and obstacles placed in my way so Mr. Whitaker knows were almost unsurmountable." Thanks to a kind <sup>unyielding</sup> Providence I overcame them all" - - - And because no one else occupied the grounds there, I gave him everything except what Jackson and Bracket occupied, for no one else wanted them, under because. - Since then we have had Mr. Harris, James Harris, George Helmer, Wilson Wells, - Charles Helmer, David Jackson, Jonathan Simons, James Lerose. - James Overholt, David Streete, Montrose, and several, licensed to fish to fish on certain portions of Brooks former fisheries at first occupied by him altogether, and which I have been curtailing from him each year until he has now only three seine hauling grounds left, - described within certain chain limits instead of mile limits as heretofore. - and there are still some seine hauling grounds at S. point not occupied. - - -

You will however be pleased to bear in mind that the seine hauling



grounds on V. point in Long point bay are  
spring fisheries only of short duration, —  
while Nos 1, and 4, on Turkey point beach,  
continue as fisheries the most productive, the  
whole year round. —

As a matter of fact, it is owing partly to  
the active energy of Brooks, that Turkey pt.  
fisheries, have become so valuable of late  
years, — I have curtailed him of several  
miles of Bay frontage this year, which  
he bore without a murmur. —

I therefore don't feel justified in  
reducing him to smaller limits than he  
at present occupies. —

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
The Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries.  
Ottawa,

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr  
Ouellet

My dear Sir,

Please send me on receipt  
five dollars, and I will send to the de-  
partment at Ottawa for your license to  
fish a seine, same as last year. —

If you want any change to be made  
in the limits — let me know. —

Isaac Ellicombe Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Post Master,  
Lombards P. O.  
Ouellet

Yours very truly,  
John W. Kerr  
Ouellet  
6. April 1874.

Postages 24¢

Sir,

6. April 1874,

With reference to yours of the 26<sup>th</sup> ultimo, in reply to mine, for licence in the name of Joseph Woodruff Esq<sup>r</sup>, President of the St. Catharines Game Club, for 12, 15, and 16, mile creeks, &c. &c. &c. which empty into Lake Ontario,

I have the honor to report - that so far no objection has been raised! - As it appears the club is very accommodating to the farmers &c. &c. -

On Thursday last, I took a run down to St. Catharines, had an interview with the President, whose reply to your proposition to set the ponds apart &c. was that it cannot be done, because, one reason put forward - the mouth of the 15, and 16 mile creeks, close up frequently, and it would take about of \$1600, to keep a permanent way open - from each to Lake Ontario, and the club are not prepared to do this! - Because there is hardly any choice fish in them! - It is to preserve the game fish therein, (they say) bass, perch, sun-fish &c. that they take out a license for... -

As the application was made in the first place instances to license for angling purposes only - a clause to keep the club strictly to this! should be inserted in this season license... -

And should any nets in future be seized at the instance of the President or any other member of the club, they must be handed up, to the Fishing officer in charge of the District. - The license for, for this season is enclosed. - -

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

I Have &amp;c.

The Minister of  
Marine and FisheriesJohn W. Kent  
Osgood

O. Maewa.

Sir,

10. April 1874.

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank cheque No: 189 - for the sum of thirty dollars. Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows: -

1. James Lerose, of Turkey pt. for fishing on apt. already licensed to him there, for this current year. - - - 10.00.

2. Frank Jackson, for fishing at Turkey pt. already licensed to him there, for this current year. 10.00.

3. Henry Jones, for license of a fishing in Lake Erie, at Port Stanley, east of the Harbour there. "Copy herewith" - 5.00.

4. J. R. Munnell - for a license of a fishing in Lake Erie, east of Port Stanley Harbour, for this current year, Copy herewith, 5.00

The Hon: Minister of Marine and Fisheries.  
Ottawa.

I Have, &c., &c.,

John W. West  
Oversee.

Total \$ 30.00.

X Wednesday, 8. April 1874,

at Jarvis, Simcoe and Turkey point, went out at 8. a.m. Came in at 6. p.m. Miles By fare \$ 1.45. By 2.50, dinner tea and bed 75¢

X Thursday, 9. April 1874.

at Turkey pt. and Simcoe bay. Lake Erie measured of Jones seine hauling grounds went out at 8. a.m. came in at 7.30. p.m. Miles about 20. Boat \$ 1.49 By 2.50, breakfast, dinner tea and bed \$ 1. -

John Jackson paid me 10 for Frank and 10, for James Lerose - see my report above. - - -



Sir,

10, April 1874.

I have the honor to apply to you for a license to fish with seines in Long Point Bay, Lake Erie, in front of the township of Charlotteville, in the South Riding of St. Catharines for this current year, in behalf of the undersigned, which I have much pleasure in recommending may be immediately granted. -

1. Charles Jarvis. - Copy of license herewith. -
2. Jesse Hobbs. - do. -
3. John Jackson. - do. -

Will send you the money

very shortly. -

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries

Ottawa,

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr  
O.

X Friday 10. April 1874. -

at Turkey Point, Simcoe, Jarvis Caledonia and Hamilton, went out 4. a.m. came in at 2. p.m. miles 60. - 14<sup>¢</sup> By 2.50, By fare 1.45 breakfast and dinner 60. - -

X Monday, 12. May 1874, - Tuesday 14. Apr

at London, St<sup>h</sup> Thomas, Port Bruce, and Port Burwell, - measured off four seine hauling grounds there for Fernando Montez, Jacob Burdau (2), and W. J. Adams. at Port Bruce, 10 chains each. See Memorandum - By fare from Hamilton to St<sup>h</sup> Thomas \$1.00, Steam to Port Bruce 3.50, H. and Wagon to Port Burwell \$2.50 & dinner 65¢, tea and bed for self and Nicolls - the driver 1.50 14<sup>¢</sup> & buggy to Port Burwell 2.50. Horse & buggy to St<sup>h</sup> Williams 1.25, 14<sup>¢</sup> & buggy to Simcoe 2.50, tea and horse keep and breakfast \$1.50, dinner 25¢, miles 170 - - -



Sir

11. April 1874.

I have the honor to report for your information that on yesterday, Nathaniel Jones, of Barton, came before me, and pleaded guilty to having placed a pike gill net in, and across an inlet of Burlington bay, in the township of Barton, and South Riding of Wentworth, which barred the main channel and entirely obstructed the passage of fish, - please see Sub Section 4, and 5, of Section 13. of the Fisheries Act. - I have fined him one dollar which he has paid. - And I recommended that I be permitted to restore to him his net again, - feeling as I do, that he will never again repeat the offence. -

The Hon. Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries,  
Ottawa,

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
Surgeon

Postage

21¢

L

Wednesday, 15, April 1874. - - -

at Simcoe, Jarvis - and Hamilton. went  
out at 8. a. m. came in at 1.30. p. m. -  
Miles 46. Ry fare 1.45, Buys 15¢  
on alfalfa 25 + 25

Sir,

11. April 1874.

I have the honor to apply to you for permission to employ one or more seine hauling fishermen at Turkey Point Lake Erie - during close season - to procure for me some pickeral - from which I want to get some spawn - in - impregnate it with the fluid from the male fishes - to be afterwards placed by me in B's bay, so as to re-stock it with pickeral. -

If you are pleased to grant this permission, I shall attend there myself in person - to see that this permission is not abused.

The Hon. Minister

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr.

Ontario.

Sir,

12. April 1874.

With reference to your letter to me of the 25. of March last, regarding Mr Lindley Moore leasing the beach at Port Bruce in front of the Lake Erie Fisheries there, to Alexander Kontze, I may say, that having submitted the same to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries - Ottawa. - I am instructed to communicate to you his answer thereto, herewith. -

Sheriff,

Colin Munro, -

St. Thomas.

Onto.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr

O. A.

Here follows the letter,

Sir,

11. April 1874.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> instant, in reply to mine of the 4<sup>th</sup> instant, "recommending the issue of a gill net license to Mrs. Anne Sherburne, for leave to fish in B. Bay." - -

"I would request you to state why! her name was not included in the list of recommendations made by you on the 9<sup>th</sup> ultimo."

In reply, I have the honor to report the simple facts, as they are: - -

1<sup>st</sup> My letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> ultimo, is for permission to fish pike gill nets only! - While my letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> instant, in behalf of Mrs. Anne Sherburne, is for a license to fish Herring gill nets. - -

2<sup>d</sup>. The application was only made to me by her, the day I applied. - She is a poor Widow, and as I said in my letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> instant has no other kind of net whatever. -

My reasons, which are cogent, will I hope prove satisfactory.

Hon. Ministers of  
Marine & Fisheries  
Ottawa

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
F.O.

✓

---

Wednesday, 15, April 1874,

at the Wharves - and out on bay - Andrew Jago having sent for me to bring nets set on his father's licensed limit - before I reached there, the nets were removed, went out at 4.30 p.m., came in at 8. p.m. - Miles 12, Boat, Horse & Waggon and 2 Men 2. - 2.00

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to find your license for this current year herewith. - -

You will please observe in reading over the the written part of this license - that a great change has been made in the wording of the same, as compared with past year's license. - When I first applied for your license, an objection was raised to giving you any license at all; However! knowing you so well as I do, to be an honorable upright man, and a warm friend of the fisheries, and in favour of the propagation of Salmon: - It devolved upon me to stand forward in your behalf, a thing which gave me very great pleasure in doing. - Hence the favourable result in your behalf.

Please don't allow any person or persons to fish on the limits described in your license for this current year. -

Will tell you other particulars when I come down, - believe me,

William Cowan Esq  
Pickering  
Port Union, Post Office.

Yours truly,  
John W. Kerr  
J. W.  
Hamilton, Onto.  
13. April 1874.



My dear Sir,

I have just received information that you intend renting your machine in front of your lot of land at Queenston Heights - this year to James Robbins, - if this is so, or whether or not, I may as well tell you in time that I cannot, nor will not recommend any license to issue this year to fish in the Niagara River in front of this said lot. . . .

James Robbins can never occupy any fishery in the Niagara River, either as proprietor, owner, agent, tenant, occupier, partner, or person actually in charge either as occupant, or servant, please read sub section 4, of section 17. of the Fisheries Act. -

Neither will I recommend a license to issue for your upper ground if James Robbins is to be the man you intend to fish there. - By Circular dated 4<sup>th</sup> of May last, this power is given me to do so. -

All license fees must be first paid, before a license will be issued by the department at Ottawa, - You cannot in any case do anything at all until your license fees are first paid. -

This I have already communicated to you and every other fisherman in my district. . . .

Whatever the result is, that may be arrived at James Robbins cannot fish for you, nor any other person at Queenston,

Believe me,

Very truly Yrs  
John W. Ketch.

J. W.

Hamilton, Ont.

13. April 1874. -

John Wadsworth,  
Queenston  
Ont.

My dear Sir,

I have just received your letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> instant telling me that James Munce has sent you a letter for a license to fish in the River Credit, that you told him to go on and fish. -

As you have no authority from me to do this! you must now go to him again - and tell him from me, he cannot fish - until I get his money, and apply to the Department at Ottawa, for a license. - I have told you before, repeatedly that no person whatever can <sup>fish nor</sup> spear fish of any kind in the River Credit. - - - If any other person or persons want to fish, tell them they cannot do so. - Spearfishing will not be allowed in small creeks, for it is a privilege the Minister alone can grant under licenses. - - -

My Circular dated 1<sup>st</sup> of May last year, no man can fish without a license - and whenever I make an application for any one to fish, I must accurately describe the limits within which he intends fishing. - - -

You must be particular, stop every one, taking down their names, and don't encourage any person to commit an act, which a license alone can empower him or them to do. - - -

I shall apply for no one until I just receive his money. - and if any person fishes without a license - the fine is 200, or 4 months in jail. -

Now let this letter, be sufficient for you for all time to come. -

Yrs Truly,

John W. Ross  
J. Ross

Hamilton, Ont.  
13 April 1874.

Mr James F. Miley  
Rivers Credit.  
Ont.

My dear Sir,

Your's of the 8<sup>th</sup> instant, is just received, "You ask if there is any law to prevent me fishing with a spear." - My reply to this is, that no person can spear without the sanction of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries. Remember me please, very kindly to His Worship Mayor Mathews, and believe me. -

Yrs Truly

John W Kerr

Mr A. Rainey,  
Brantford,

J. Douglas  
Hamilton, Ont.

13. April 1874.

X.

Thursday, 16. April 1874,

at the Jags - B. beach - Lards Bay, and home - searched for gill nets - found none, went out at 5. p.m. came in at 10.30. p.m. Miles 16. 14. & B. and Boat, Fred & Charles rowing. - - 14 & Bay <sup>#</sup>2, - and Boatmen <sup>#</sup>3. -

16, April 1874,

My dear Sir, Your letter received, You complain of persons catching Pickard &c, with dip nets. - send me their names and the witnesses names - and I will attend to them at once, and come down and catch them myself at work, if you appoint the time. - I heard a short time ago, of a man, who set a gill net in Pt. Dalhousie Harbor, and a tug boat, cut it in two, did you hear of this, write me at once,

By Peter Bath,  
Pt. Dalhousie,

Yrs Truly  
John W Kerr  
Q,



Sir,

16, April 1874,

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque  
No: 196, for twenty <sup>two</sup> dollars, (22).

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
as follows:

No: 1, Mfgs <sup>3</sup> Hernando Kontze - and Jacob Berdan  
on - account of fishing stations, No: 2, 3, and 4, sit-  
uated in Lake Erie, in front of lots No: 4, and 5, in  
the 1<sup>st</sup> Concession of Malahide, and County of Elgin,  
please refer to my letters of 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of  
March last. - This is at Port Bruce - Will  
report, and send copies of licenses on tomorrow. <sup>12</sup>  
" 2. - Charles Gerris - License fee for Station  
No: 9, - in the river bay Long point - in front  
of lot No: 3, just or B.E. Concession of Char-  
les Gerris, <sup>#5</sup> and lot No: 5, on the front beach  
of Long point outer bay, Lake Erie - received  
license for 9. - Will send copy for 5

10.  
Total, \$ 22.

Hon: Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa,

I Have the  
Hon: W. Kerr,  
Ouellet,

Postage stamps 20 at 3¢ 60,  
do, 20 at 1¢ 20 = 80,



My dear Peter, -

Please find special fishing licenses herewith, for John Jackson, <sup>#10</sup> and Jesse Davis, <sup>#5</sup> fifteen dollars, - get this amount - then hand them their license - ~~the~~ Jackson cannot expect gaffney point fishing for less than ten dollars - which is the same amount James Harris pays, while ~~Wm~~ Snook, whose middle haul is between Jackson and Harris - pays twenty dollars. - I was told last night, that Bob and Frank Jackson run their seine across Snook's ground, - if there is a repetition of this, and Snook's complaint and proves the case, I shall fine and confiscate the seine - so be sure and tell the boys and warn them to be careful. -

Now with regard to the close season for bass, pickerel and muskies, the law's pure and simple, thus! -

No person shall fish for, - - - No person shall catch - - - No person shall kill - - - any bass, pickerel (Doe) or Muskies, between the 15<sup>th</sup> of April, and the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, in each year. - in the Province of Ontario, - This is all plain enough. -

You must therefore stop the seine hauling and the spearing at once, - - - because they cannot fish for them and then put them back. - If any seine hauling fisherman resists the law, and persists in hauling - telegraph me at once, and I shall come up forthwith. - - - I may mention to you last night with surprise that James Harris, said he would fish all through close season, and that he's pedlar - Barth

who keeps a locked up boy on his fish waggon said he would take all the pickers - Harris would catch - and paddle them in spite of me, or of you, and I, - Now I hope this report is not true of either Harris or Buttes, - They have of close season must be strictly enforced. -

Get from Harris <sup>10</sup>, after you get it, then read this communication to him. - Get five dollars from Jesse Davis, and ten dollars from John Jackson, and send me this money <sup>25</sup> dollars at once. -

Johnson, <sup>10</sup>, Crockett, <sup>10</sup>, Beaupre, <sup>5</sup>, and Brandell, <sup>10</sup>, must be paid you at once. -

If not paid, proceedings will be instituted against them, for fishing without a license. -

Now, Peter, you must be sharp with those people - and do your duty like a man. - Charles Harris' license for ground at Goose roost is herewith. - I only charge him <sup>5</sup>, this year. - his license on the front beach, I have not yet received - when I get it, I will send it to you also. -

Please hand Davis, and Jackson their licenses, get their money at once. - tell them you must get it. - No excuse. -

David Jackson - talks a great deal about the close time, and other things - just tell D<sup>d</sup> to mind his own business - he is not a licensed fisherman. - Believe me - Y<sup>rs</sup> Truly.

John W. Kerr

If you want a man to help you at I. Point, - Get Jas. Sh. Hamilton, a shoemaker, tell him, I said so, I will pay him, 15. April 1894

J. W. Kerr

Sir, 

16. April 1874,

I have the honor to apply to you for licenses to fish at Port Bruce, and Long Point, Outer Bay - at Turkey Point, in Lake Erie, for the undermentioned persons. -

Copies of licenses herewith. -

1. W. L. Adams, Jacob Berdan, and Harbando Kothye, Port Bruce. -
2. Charles Harris, Turkey Point. -
3. Isaac Michener - Long Point, L. Erie the same as last year. -

The Hon:

The Minister of  
Ottawa,

I Have &c,

John W Kerr  
Ottawa

Sir, 

18. April 1874,

I have the honor to apply to you for 30. Copies of Blank Special Licenses. -

I want them for immediate use having disposed of all I received from you a short time ago. -

Hon: Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries  
Ottawa,

I Have &c,

John W Kerr  
Ottawa

Sir,

18, April 1874,

I have the honor to send you herewith my afeto and diary, including disbursements, for quarter ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March last, as follows, -

My diary - from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, to the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, inclusive, amounts to - - 71.70  
Add, -

Voucher No. 1,	John W. Kerr	Bank Order,	1.50,	
" " 2,	- do. -	Office Order,	90,	
" " 3,	- do. -	Postage,	1.60,	
" " 4,	do,	Stationery,	6.80,	
" " 5,	do,	Telegrams,	1.50,	
" " 6,	do,	Office Rent,	5.00	17.30,
" " 7,	Pat's Price -	Presidium,	-	25.00
" " 8,	S. V. Larcie,	Barriester,	-	50.00
" " 9,	Charles John Kerr,	Boatman,	18.00	
				Total \$ 182.00

Respectfully Submitted,

Hon. Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries,  
Ottawa,

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr  
J. W.



Sir,

16. April 1874.

In obedience to your instructions of the 9<sup>th</sup> of January, I have now the honor to report for your information that I have after paying three separate visits to Turkey point, Lake Erie, succeeding at last in making a redivision of the Fisheries there. ---

The stations now stand redivided, with the names of the occupants, and the rent paid for each fishery, as follows:

Station No. 1. W<sup>m</sup> Snook, fishery in the Outer bay, front beach. This lot, I curtailed in length about a mile. --- \$ 20.00

No. 2. Frank Jackson, do, do, 10.00  
Gave him the entire ground formerly licensed to his father John Jackson. ---

No. 3. James Lerose, do, do, 20.00.

This ground was formerly held by Crocker.

No. 4. - W<sup>m</sup> Snook, - do, do, 10.00,

" 5, Charles Ferris, do, do, Son of Widow Ferris. - This fishery is about 4 miles in extent of beach, and is cheap at 50 dollars per year, instead of 5.00

In the Inner bay on the South side of Turkey point, Marsh, Lake Erie, ---

6. James Ferris, - 10.00.

7. W<sup>m</sup> Snook, - 20.00,

8. John Jackson. - 10.00,

And still there is two miles of frontage - bay and beach, not occupied. ---

Station between Goose Roost, point, and St Williams Harbour, distance about one mile in front of lots Nos. 1, 2, and 3 - just Concepcion, in the township of Chathamville. - a small Marsh intervening between the beach <sup>of the bay</sup> and the main land. ---

Station No: 9. - Charles Garrie - an excellent ground, \$ 2 5.00,  
 " 10. Jesse Davis. - a good ground. - 5.00,  
 " 11. James Lerose. - will be a good  
 ground - when cleared of logs. - 5.00  
 Total, \$ 120.00

Until last year Wm. Snooks, occupied all the Southern front of Turkey point marsh, - about half of this is now occupied by Messrs. James Garrie, Wm. Snooks, and John Jackson, while the balance stands as a reserve, not being fished on at all. - - -

Snooks who made cleared and developed these fisheries has only retained the smallest seine hauling ground of them all for himself; while Jackson and Garrie placed on each side of Snooks, have more territory, and good spring hauling fish producing fisheries. - - -

Stos: 9, 10, and 11, are good yielding valuable spring fisheries, worth double the rent, they are licensed at. - - -

When the spring fishing in front of lots No: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11, Luce Bay, &c, terminate each year. - then it is that the licenses of fishing stations Nos: 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, can go back to these latter seine hauling grounds on the front beach, outer bay, which they also occupy under licenses from the department. - - - These seine hauling grounds like all the others - being very productive, yielding abundance of fish all the year round. - - -

I hope this redivision of the Turkey pt fisheries - Lake Erie - which I foresaw for some time past could be carried out satisfactorily to the fisherman and all other concerned under your direction, will now that it is done meet your approval. - -

Hon: Minister

Y. Y. Y. - Ottawa,

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr J. O.

P. S. -

When respectable applicants apply, I have other fishing grounds in Reserve for them. -

John W. Kent

Overseer

Sir,

16, April 1874,

I have the honor to receive your letter of instructions, relative to the Port Bruce fisheries, with Mr. Sheriff Munro's letter thereon, as reported upon by me on the 28<sup>th</sup> of March last.

Upon Monday last, I proceeded to Port Bruce L.rie, and measured off the Fisheries there into your Seine hauling grounds - as per Copy of licenses herewith to be replaced by original licenses if approved of by you, per Circular dated 1<sup>st</sup> of May last. - - - As I passed through St. Thomas, I deposited in the Post Office there a copy of your letter for the Sheriff to which on my return home, yesterday I received from him the annexed telegram, - viewing the matter from stem to stern - I have come to the conclusion that this affair, is a put up job! - to fleece the fishermen out of ground rent, for going on to an open beach, and conversion of several acres, which they only use when hauling below high water mark. - made at Port Bruce in front of the fisheries by the action of the Lake Water, - "except when the walk across this sandy open Common" - since the Harbour was built there. - - -

I read your letter to the fishermen! - what am I to do, with regard to the Sheriff's telegram. - - It is evident, in my mind Mr. Lindley Moore, the Sheriff, and a Capt. Thompson, who is in the Sheriff's employment



at Port Bruce wants the licenses of all the four Seine hauling grounds, -- When they get them! Sublet.

Kontze, referred to, in the Sheriff's letter was by his lease to pay Mr Moore 30<sup>¢</sup>, a year, for the use of the beach, and 10<sup>¢</sup>, a year to Sheriff Munro - for a small piece of beach, near the west pier, - and Kontze had actually commenced at Adams, warning him to fish no more until he paid him \$15. - for the use of the beach, in front of his Adams hauling ground. --

Captain Thompson told me, he holds a Bill of Sale on Berdaws two Seines, &c, and on Kontze's Seine &c, for money they owe him. -- --

Probing the matter to the bottom I just at once came to the conclusion and charged forty dollars, for these four fishing grounds. -- --

Kontze, individually, had no occasion to lease from Mr Moore - as the fishing licensed to him is nearly all in front of another man's land - who told me the fishermen, and the department were welcome to the beach in front of his property. - Mr Moore lays no claim to the fisheries. -- --

Thompson, whom I know very well, told me that he would advise the Sheriff and Mr Moore not to interfere with the fishes - men this year. - The money the fishermen owe him, is in jeopardy! -

You can from this communication have little hesitation in coming to a conclusion in this case. -- Without your sanction and instructions I can interfere only to the extent I have gone,

Will you please instruct me what I am to do? --

Hon: Minister,  
Y, Y, Y,

I Have Y, c  
John W. W.  
Charles



My dear Sir,

20. April 1874,

Yours of the 14<sup>th</sup> instant, is received  
 please find five dollars herewith - which I bor-  
 rowed from Mr John Becker, for Patrick Layhe  
 of Port Dover, at a time he wanted it very much,  
 his daughter being dead at the time. - I labour-  
 ed under the impression - Mr Layhe had paid  
 it - hence my negligence. - -

Thank you for your kindness - please  
 send me a receipt. -

Yours truly  
 John W. Kerr  
 Dundee

The Clerk of No. 8,  
 Division Court  
 Port Dover. -

X

Monday 20. April 1874,  
 at St. Catharines, and Niagara - to ascertain  
 who was going to fish there this year, saw  
 Thomas Elliott, Tom Moir, John Stand, Charles and  
 Alfred Ball, went out at 8. a. m., came in  
 at 3. p. m. - Miles 48, Railway fare <sup>\$</sup>1.30, Stage  
 fare <sup>\$</sup>50, dinner tea and bed <sup>\$</sup>75, Omnibus <sup>\$</sup>20. - <sup>\$</sup>1.50

X

Tuesday, 21, April 1874, -  
 at Niagara, Suspension Bridge, Port Erie, and down  
 the River to Black Creek, found Chester A.  
 Harris with a load of fish - several pickered  
 amongst them - Peter Little was out in River  
 in Miller's bay - overhauling line, taking, fishing  
 for and killing pickered, George Hill had  
 pickered in his possession - Peter Miller and  
 John Miller, Geo. House and others, went out  
 at 6. a. m. - Came in at 9 1/2 p. m. at Dun-  
 miles - Miles 56, Boat <sup>\$</sup>2, Ry. fare <sup>\$</sup>1.75, <sup>\$</sup>1.00.  
 Breakfast, dinner, bed &c, <sup>\$</sup>1.50. - - -  
 Geo. Hutton paid <sup>\$</sup>12.12 on acct of license. - -

Sir,

23. April 1874,

I have the honor to apply to you for a license for this current year, to fish in Sulphur Creek, &c, west of Staldernand Bridge, which is in the township of Dunn, in the County of Staldernand, -

For Messrs Bates, Miles & Coy, of the <sup>said</sup> township, at the rate of twenty dollars, for this year. Copy of license herewith. - -

Please send me original license at once. -

Hon. Minister  
 &c. &c. &c.  
 Ottawa.

I Have &c,  
 John W. Kerr

Sir,

23. April 1874,

I have the honor to report for your information, and it gives me very great pleasure on this occasion to do so, indeed, that the fishermen at Turkey Point, Lake Erie have all hung up their seines, and do not intend nor will not fish any whatever, during pickeral &c. &c. close season. -

This arrangement was amicably fixed between myself and the fishermen there, when at Turkey Point - on the 14<sup>th</sup> instant. - - -

Hon. Minister  
 &c. &c. &c.  
 Ottawa.

I Have &c,  
 John W. Kerr  
 Sheriff

Sir

23. April 1874.

I have the honor to send you Bank  
cheque No. 207, for the sum of fifty four dol-  
lars. ---

Will you be pleased to apply this  
amount as follows; for this current year. -

1. Jacob Everett, of Willoughby, County of  
Welland - a license to fish in the Niagara  
River, between Millers Creek, and the residence  
of Jacob Everett, for the current year, for  
bait hauling and hooks, and line fishing, - \$ 4.00

Copy of license - please find herewith. -

2. Mordecai Green, of Dunnville, license to fish  
in the Grand River, for current year, Copy herewith, - 5.00.
3. - Martin Green of Dunnville do. do. do. 5.00.
4. Messrs W. & J. Gamble & Co. - do. do. do. 5.00
5. James Harris of Turkey Point, License  
has been already received by me and  
delivered, - - - 10.00
6. John Jackson of I. Point, do. do. 10.00.
7. Jesse Davis do. do. do. 5.00
8. Richard Johnson of Charltonville,  
License fee - for current year, same  
as last year, - please refer to my  
letter of 26. April 1873. - 10.00

Total \$ 54.00

all of which is respectfully submitted.

I Have &c.  
John W. Kerr.

Sir,

23, April 1874,

I have the honor to send you herewith a Notice that was served upon James Lerose of B. Point, a fisherman - by William Holmes. -

The fishing station No. 3, referred to, in said Notice is now held under license from the department by James Lerose who is directed to take no notice whatever of Holmes document herewith,

Hon. Ministers  
H. H. H.  
Omana,

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr  
O.

Telegram 30/-

X

Wednesday 22, April 1874, ---

at Dunville, Staldinland and down the Grant River, below the gravel bed. - made a re-division of fisheries at Staldinland and Dunville - sent for licenses - see report, dated 23, April 1874; Copy herewith - Martin Green - paid me five dollars for license, Morcan Green five dollars for license - W. Lambie five dollars for license, - saw Henry Roff, and the Staldinland fishermen arranged matters which I considered fair for all persons interested. -

Martin Green - sent away a barrel of pickled on this day - heard the Reids and second were catching pickled, went out at 8. A. M., came in at 8. P. M. - Miles about 10. Boat \$2.00. Board \$1.00.



Sir,

23. April 1874,

I have the honor to report for your information, that on Tuesday last, I went down the Niagara River - from the International Bridge - 15 mi - to Black Creek, a distance of 15 miles. -

I found several men engaged overhauling set hooks and lines, and catching pickerel, in the Dominion portion of the River - designated Miller's bay. -

I have taken down the names of all those persons I found there. - They sell the pickerel in Buffalo. - Shall I prosecute them for catching, fishing for, and killing pickerel in close season. -

They take several hundred pound weight of pickerel daily by this process of fishing. - They pay no license, please instruct me what I shall do - They destroy immense quantities of fry for bait. -

L

Thursday, 23. April 1874,  
at Danville - Caledonia, and home - to the Bank, got cheque for \$54. - went out at 8, a.m. came in at 4, p.m. - miles 52 - \$  
By fare \$1.25 + breakfast 25¢ + 14¢ By 1.50.

Sir,

24, April 1874,

I have the honor to report, that while congratulating myself, and the department for the right mindedness at which the Turkey point fishermen have arrived as regards pickeral close season this year, - I am pained to find how little it is observed in other parts. - for instance Cashmere in the Thames. -

Yesterday afternoon, on arriving here, I learned from reliable authority, J. M. Williams Esq<sup>r</sup> M. P. P., that Barrels of pickeral are being shipped daily for Buffalo Market, from Bothwell Station of the G. W. Ry., and from Mr John Davis, fish dealer here, had a telegram from there, to know if they "fishermen", would send them a few barrels of pickeral. -

Please instruct me and I shall run up there, by train on Sunday next, see printed slip, - I returned from Grand River yesterday, back to another portion of it today again. - I shall have plenty of prosecutions when close season is over. -

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries, -  
Ottawa.

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr  
J. W. K.

or you telegraph me:  
J. W. K.

X Friday, 24, April 1874,  
at Caledonia, and Cayuga - Searched three  
small gill nets in the stream two miles  
below the village - thence back to Hall Hotel  
the nets are property of Dick Simmott - see  
my report thereon, - Boat \$2.50, Ry 50<sup>c</sup>, Board  
\$1.05 of Miles 46. Stage fare 50<sup>c</sup>, -  
Dick paid \$5. for license fee. -

X Saturday 25 April 1874. -  
 at Bayuqa, Caledonia, and Hamilton took the  
 gill nets home hearing one of them belonged to  
 Arthur Wright, - went out at 6. a. m. - came in  
 at 12. noon - Miles 32, Breakfast 25¢  
 Stage fare 50¢ Railway fare 50¢. - - \$1.00¢  
 Licenses sent

Telegrams 78¢  
 To, Fernando Kontze,  
 " Jacob Borden.  
 " Charles Harris.  
 " W. J. Adams. - and  
 Isaac Michener 5¢

My dear Sir,

Yours - letter - duly received  
 I am much obliged for the activity displayed by  
 you - Billy Ward, should know better, and  
 not commit double offences - spearing on Sun-  
 day - and in waters set apart; he will have  
 to abide the consequences of the fishery act &c.

Fred's shop had better send his money.  
 Keep an eye on old Peas. I am off west  
 today - believe me

J. J. Wilcox  
 P<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Credit.

Yours sincerely  
 John W. Kerr  
 Oaupee  
 25, April 1874.

My dear Sir,

Your letter of 21, received. - For a license for you and Mr Robert Book to fish, I shall charge you three dollars each - say six dollars for both. - I made a mistake in my charge last year. - It occurred in your telling me when I called at your place - that you had so very little although your letter I had previously received stated quite the contrary - Send the money, and I shall immediately apply for your joint license to the department at Ottawa, so that you may have the license in your possession when you commence fishing. - - -

Yours truly,

John W. Kerr

Ottawa,

25. April 1874.

Esau Durham Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Frimby N. office,  
Ont<sup>o</sup>.

My dear Sir,

Your letter complaining of persons shooting pike is received - Take down and keep for me the names of the persons you complain of, and at the same time warn them to keep off your licensed limits. -

I am off next to-day, Sunday by express, for yours about Wisniet, will attend to them all shortly.

Mr Rich Gilbert  
Middleport,  
Jordan N. office,

Yours Sincerely,  
John W. Kerr

Ottawa

25. April 1874.

P.S. observe picked to. V. close season.  
J. W. Kerr



My dear Sir,

I telegraphed you last evening about Pickeral close season - I am instructed by the department at Ottawa to prosecute all the fishermen at Dunville, Staldman and Port Chatham for fishing for, catching, and killing Pickeral last week, and for selling them. Complaints having been made to this effect. I warn all the fishermen not to fish for, catch or kill any Pickeral until the 1st of May. Please give this letter to one of the fishermen at Dunville who will read it to all the others.

Very truly  
Dunville

R. Office.

Yrs. Paternally  
John W. Kerr

Danvers.

26 April 1874.

Peter Bath, Port Dalhousie, Ont.,  
My dear Sir,

Many thanks for your information - Warn those people whom you saw catch pick-  
eel that you have complained to me about them.  
Your friends - Messrs Ryker & McPhail have  
urged upon me to get back your seine - I shall  
endeavour to do so - Keep a good look out  
for me, I am very busy, it will be all  
over in a few days when I will see  
you.

26. April 1874,

Yours &c  
John W. Kerr  
Dufferin

James Burns  
Merchant,

Caledonia,

24. April 1874.

For P. Gray. -

Toronto,

Letter received - get their names,  
Kind of fish - date of offence -

Will be down soon.

paid 30¢

John W. Kerr

Capt. Seible

Port Erie

Get Harris and Hutton

they are complained of. Must

not fish for pickeral until 1<sup>st</sup>

of May. - Will write you. -

charge 39¢

25. April 1874. -

John W. Kerr

David Price

Dunville

Get the fishermen at

Dunville, Halden, and Rofs

they are all complained of.

Must not fish for pickeral until 1<sup>st</sup> of

May. - - -

charge 39¢

25. April 1874, John W. Kerr

Sir,

25. April 1874,

I have the honor to apply to you for a license to fish in the Niagara River, at Fort Erie - for Mr. Charles A. Harris, for this current year, -

This license to be the same as last year, in every respect. -

2. I want a license for Mr. George Stutton, to fish in the Niagara River - this season, find copy of license herewith. - -

3. I also a license for Richard Sennett, to fish his nets in the Grand River - for three miles east of Cayuga - Copy of license herewith. -

I may mention in connection with Sennett, that I seized three small gill nets of his which I found set in the Grand River last Friday. - He has since applied for a license. - paid me five dollars - May I return to him the gill nets I have seized, - please instruct me. -

Hon. Minister

Q. Q. Q.

Ottawa,

I. Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr

Ontario

Sunday, 26. April 1874,

at London, and Chatham, in obedience to telegram received from W. J. Whitcher, - went out at 2. p. m., came in at 9. p. m. - miles 145. - By fare <sup>4</sup> 4.35, - dinner <sup>4</sup> 65, <sup>144</sup> tea and bed <sup>10</sup> 2.00 50¢ saw Chief Constable Brown, who reported no fishing in Thames below Chatham. - That Japsie Snook was in town on Saturday with half - That a man was fishing up River - a mile above the town, - -

Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> April 1874. -

at Chatham thence to Bothwell - met Jacques McKay on Train took him with me to Cashmere - saw Davis and Everingham - also Michael Dickson -

They had hauled in the morning, Dickson had two pike in a box with eels and suckers. I liberated them. - Heard from Everingham that Davis and I saw fished while he was at Belfala, during close season. - Breakfast, dinner, tea &c. 75¢, Horse and Buggy, 1.25 Cab Home 1.75, By fare <sup>4</sup> 4.45, miles 150. - - <sup>4</sup> 8.20¢

found John Deane at Dickson's house - down the River in charge of the fish. - Oliver Brownell of Bothwell took Everingham and Davis fish two barrels, sent them to Strathroy - by Train, -

E. C. Davis, Robert Fields and Everingham's brother fished the series - with Everingham himself. - fished morning of 27<sup>th</sup> sent away two barrels of fish. -



To Mr George Stutton  
Constable

I hereby em-  
power employ  
and authorize you to take down the names for me,  
of all persons fishing for, catching or killing  
pickeral in the Niagara River, the same being  
in British territory, between Fort Erie, and Ship-  
pawa either with hooks and long lines, or seines  
&c. Keep the same for me with dates of offences,  
also the names of those persons fishing in  
Lake Erie - above the old fort. Close time for  
pickeral is between the 15<sup>th</sup> of April and 1<sup>st</sup>  
of May. When no person can fish for them  
&c. &c. Do all this for me faithfully, and punctu-  
ally, and in such a manner as will in-  
sure a Conviction in each case. - - Don't  
break this law yourself. -

In discharging this duty for me, know  
no man, treat friends and all others alike,  
for your doing so, this will be your self-  
sufficient authority. - -

Given under my hand and seal at  
Hamilton, in the County of Wentworth, Province  
of Ontario, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April 1874,

John W. Kerr (Seal)  
J. W. Kerr, and Justice of Peace  
for County of Wentworth, -

P.S., -

I telegraphed Captain Treble this evening on this subject, consult with him, he is good for advice the most effectual to lead to great successes in all these cases, get your boat, and go down - you will find them where you and I already found them all fishing. - go up, in your boat and you can do the same thing. - It will be a good profitable job for you - I am off today to another place - so, I rely upon you with all confidence. -

Yrs John W. Kerr  
J. O.

"private"

My dear Sir.

Will you be so good as to give the enclosed to George Hutton - one of your constables. I want him to perform this duty discreetly for me - catching for me every single person breaking this law. - Before he apprises them that he is expressly employed by me to do so. -

Please assist him with your advice in the matter. -

Capt. Treble,  
Port Erie.

Yrs fraternally,

John W. Kerr,

26. April 1874.

Tuesday 28, April 1874,

On B. beach, mending the Pike gill nets to be taken out of the Bay on Thursday next for the last time - went round by the Plains and Mr. Wright, found all regular - except, heard Ben: Jolds, Jim Rofs - saw Corey and another man hauled in Lake, and caught White fish (2) Pickeral a few - Snakers &c, and a few Herring, went out at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  a. m. came in at 4. p. m. - Miles 26. - H & B -  $\frac{\$}{\text{m}} \frac{4}{2.50}$  -

Mr Benjamin Goulds. -

B: Beach. -

My dear Sir,

You are complained of, for fishing for, catching and killing for, two white fish, in a Herring seine, and catching some Pickeral at the same time, What have you got to say;

Hamilton, Onto.,

28, April 1874. -

Yrs Truly,  
John W. Kerr,  
Quebec

Tuesday, 28, April 1874,

London, Chatham, and Baptiste Creek to enquire about Pickeral fishing in close season. - saw Station Master, Mr. Davis on the subject, went out at 9. p. m. came in at 7. a. m. By fare  $\frac{\$}{\text{m}} \frac{4.75}{\text{at}}$ , Miles 165. -  
See 35¢, 5.10 2.49 = 7.50,

Sir,

2. May 1874,

I have the honor to report for your information that I proceeded to Fort Erie on Thursday last, and had the following persons summoned up, for fishing for, catching, and killing pickrel, in the Niagara River, township of Bertie, and County of Welland, between the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May; To wit; on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April last, &c, &c. -

As I was myself the Complainant in the cases, I had Charles Tschelt, Esq<sup>r</sup> of the Customs department, to try, and adjudicate in each case; the result you will please find as follows; and with the exception of one case all pleaded guilty. -

1. Peter S. Bettle, fishing for, catching, and killing pickrel, during close season. - Fined 5, and 2.95 costs.
2. George Hill - do, do, do - 1; and 2.85. -
3. George House. do, do - do, 5, and 2.95 -
4. John Bridgell - Having pickrel in his possession - &c, &c, fined 5, and 2.95 costs. -
5. Frank, Clarke, - Fined 1, and 2.95 - Costs. - Not fine
6. Chester A. Harris. - Fined 5, and 2.95 costs. -
7. John Harris - Fined 5, and 2.95 costs.
8. Edward Stankovic - Fined \$1, and 3.95 costs. -
9. Thomas James, - Fined 1, and 2.95 costs. -
10. - Edwin Miller, - Fined 1, and 2.95 -
11. - George Stutton - Fined 5, and 2.95 -
12. Fred<sup>r</sup> Jamison - Fined 5, and 2.95. -
13. - John Rooney - Fined 5, and 2.95 -
14. David Harris, - Fined \$1, and 3.95 costs.
15. George Bettle - Fined 5, and 2.95 cents. -
16. - Jacob Sheeler - Fined 1\$, and 2.95 costs.

The fines will be all paid in next week - and the moiety to the Queen will be then sent you. - all of which is respectfully submitted for your approbation.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister

I Have &amp;c

John H. H. H.



Sir,

2. May 1874.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 27. of April last, in reply to mine of the 23<sup>rd</sup> in which occurs; "I am to expel the Ministers & =  
 "there surprise that you should permit such  
 "a flagrant breach of the Fishery laws to oc=  
 "cur, and continue under your immediate  
 "view?" - "What instruction do you think it  
 necessary to wait for?" - -

In reply to this observation of the Ministers I have the honor to state that my own mind and feelings coincide fully with his views in this respect. - As far as I am individually concerned I did not think it necessary to wait for any instruction as to the course of my pro=  
 ceedings in these cases. - - -

I was down the Niagara River in a boat on the occasion referred to, for the express purpose of catching those people, who were fishing for, catching and killing pickeral during close season - and warn them as to the consequences. - - In this I succeeded and the result now sent you in the accompanying list, and report herewith will I hope convince the Ministers, that there was nothing tardy on my part. - - -

A communication from the department addressed to me a couple of years ago, led me to adopt the course I did in asking the question referred to, which communication I am now very glad to find is altogether done away with for all time to come by the receipt of this letter, so clear, explicit, and so specific on this so important a subject. - - -

I made my tour to all the pickled fisheries, that I heard were in operation in my district during the close season, and further results will be faithfully reported to you in due time.

I was continually, I may say, on the tramp for the last sixteen days. -

The

Hon. the Minister

I have &c.

John W. Kerr  
Surgeon.

Sir,

2. May, 1874. - - -

I am just in receipt of your telegram of the 30, ultimo, calling on me - "Write and explain nature of offence against fishing laws mentioned in your letter to Contracting Toronto Water Works." -

In reply, I beg most respectfully to refer you to the latter part of my report dated 31<sup>st</sup> day of October 1873. - to which I then drew the attention of the Minister on this subject. - - -

I have now the honor to report for your information, that Mr. P. Gray - a fisherman - resident on Toronto Island - is still licensee of the fishing referred to, and within the limits described in his license - from the Department of Marine and Fisheries - the Water works - contractors have submerged the main pipe leading to the Filtering Basin, which is situated on the Island - south of the Light House. - - -

The pipe track is made by dredging out both sand and gravel for a depth of several feet from the bottom of the bay. -

The material excavated therefrom by the steam dredge, being dumped into the water as the excavator advances: - thus forming a bar, and ridge of sand and gravel, which in some places reaches above the surface

of the water, and in other places comes near the surface of the water of the bay. -- This bar formed by the material excavated by by the Contractors and their men from the bottom so as to submerge the pipe is a serious injury, and loss to the Licensee. --

I was induced by Mr. Gray, some time ago, to go with him to Mr. John Bell, Chairman of the Water Works Commissioners - also to Mayor Metcalfe - and those gentlemen received the matter at the time favourably. --

This was before I wrote to the Contractors the letter you allude to. --

The obstruction referred to, is situated where seine hauling for rough fish has been usually carried on every spring by Mr. P. Gray under a special license. -- He cannot haul his seine there now, because it ropes up, when crossing the ridge and has referred to and the fish then all escape out of the net. --

I think myself the Contractors should have no hesitation to level off this ridge - because in making it they have disturbed and injured the fishing to the extent of at least five hundred dollars, during the past season and up to this present time. --

The Contractors and Commissioners should certainly make at once such arrangements with Mr. Gray, as will compensate him for losses, injury &c. they have or may inflict upon him during the continuance of the said Water Works. --

I learned a short time ago, this will be of long duration, as it is, reported the main pipe is to be taken up and put



deeper down again. . . .

Mr Gray, has himself the assurance of Mr Mayor Metcalfe, that he would be remunerated for damage and injury done - by disturbing and injuring his fishery. - Mr Bell - Chairman - says the Contractors - are responsible to him - the Contractors in return tell him the Commissioners! - while to my mind sub section 4. of section 17, is clear on the subject. . . .

Mr Gray has thus far abstained from taking proceedings. . . . He notified me however recently that he was going to do so. Mr Bell, the Chairman - who brought the case before the Board of Commissioners - having intimated to Mr Gray - that Messrs <sup>3</sup> Dickey and Gentry, the Contractors were alone responsible to him. -

Copy of my letter, and reply from Contractors find ~~it~~ herewith. . . .

I was at Fort Erie - where your telegram arrived here - hence my reason for not answering it ~~soon~~ . . .

Hon: Minister,

4, 4, 4. Wednesday. 29, April 1874.

I have V. Lohull Ken O,

Baptists Creek, thence back to Genet siding  
Prairie siding Chatham, Mothwell, London  
and Hamilton - made my report see copy -  
went out at 8. a. m. came in at 10. p. m.  
Miles 165, Ry fare \$4.75 + Cab, 1.50

Breakfast, dinner and tea \$1.25, = \$7.50 +



Sir,

5. May 1874,

I have the honor to send you here =  
with Bank cheque for Sixty (4) dollars - It is  
No: 5. -

Will you be pleased to apply  
this amount as follows: for this current  
year. - - -

1. Chester A. Harris, license to fish in  
the Niagara River at Fort Erie - 25.00.
2. George Hutton, do. do. 25.00
3. George House, for license to fish  
Hooks, and Long lines for pickeral  
in the Niagara River. Copy of li-  
cense herewith. - - 2.00,
4. Edward Miller do. do. 1.00.
5. Henry Edward Miller, do do. 1.00.
6. Richard Bennett License to fish  
gill nets, in Grand River at  
Layton. - 5.00.
7. Enock Patchet license to fish  
dip nets in River Credit, at Spring-  
field. - 5.00

Total \$ 64.00

Hon. Minutes of  
Meeting No. 10.  
Tawa.

I Have to  
John W. Kerr  
oversee.

Thursday, 30. April 1874,  
at St. Catharines, Thorold, and Fort Erie, - got out  
summonses for all those persons named in my report  
of 2<sup>d</sup> instant, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 3. p.m.  
miles 70. St. Cath. 1.50<sup>¢</sup> - Board 1.25<sup>¢</sup> - Railway fare 2.30<sup>¢</sup>

Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1874,

at Fort Erie - went thence to Black Creek to see  
the constable serve summonses - on persons for  
Contraventions of the Fisheries Act, went out at 5.30.  
a.m. came in at 10.30. a.m. miles 14. St. Cath. 2.00<sup>¢</sup>

attended court - thence to Grand Trunk Station to  
see Charles Sieble Esq. J. P. - see my report  
for, names of all persons fined. - miles 6. - = 20.

was on duty actively employed until 11. p.m.

Saturday 2. May 1874,

at Fort Erie - George Hettle and David Har-  
ris were fined - went out at 11.30. a.m. came  
home at 4.30. miles - 70. Railway fare, 2.30<sup>¢</sup>  
Board 75<sup>¢</sup>, - Sieble gave me 9 - fines as fol-  
lows - half Complaint fees. - St. Cath. 1.50<sup>¢</sup>

1. Peter Hettle, 2.50<sup>¢</sup>,
2. George House, 2.50.
3. Thomas James, -.50.
4. George Hettle, 2.50.
5. Ed. Hawkins, -.50.
6. Edwin Miller, -.50. \$9.00<sup>¢</sup> Total,

Stationery paper 40 Ink 90

Board 1.25<sup>¢</sup>.

Sir,

2. May 1874.

In reply to your telegram of the 25. ultimo, instructing me to "Proceed immediately to Bothwell, and other places on the Thames, and ascertain when by whom and under what pretences of authority if any; pickeral caught, bought, sold, possessed or carried by railway company during close season, report particulars so as to found vigorous prosecutions."

I have the honor to report that I proceeded to Chatham on the 26<sup>th</sup> and back to Bothwell on the 27<sup>th</sup> ultimo. - On arriving at Cashmere I found that Messrs Everingham and Davis the licensed fishermen there had continued fishing on at Cashmere in River Thames as had also Michael Dickson, another licensee, they had both hauled there several times before I reached there on the 27<sup>th</sup>. - Dickson had only two pickeral in his possession, they were in a perforated box of water; they were alive being fished for, and caught that morning, I ordered them to be instantly liberated which was done forthwith. - I am aware that Davis during the absence of Everingham at Buffalo N.S., had been fishing for, catching and killing pickeral, so the latter told me, this was between the 15<sup>th</sup> of April and the 25<sup>th</sup> <sup>I may here state</sup>, caught Davis informed him as much as would pay the fines. - This catch was only in small quantities - a few in each haul, with the rough fish. - These were sold to resident farmers. - I may here state that the station Master at Bothwell would receive no pickeral after the 15. of April for shipment, I ordered Messrs Everingham



and Coy, and Michael Dickson to hang up their  
 seines, until 1<sup>st</sup> of May, which I was assured  
 would be acceded to,

I may here mention that when pro-  
 ceeding from Chatham to Bothwell, at Thames-  
 ville, Mr McKee Creeper at Wallaceburg came  
 on board - I introduced myself to him, <sup>when</sup> we  
 reached Bothwell, we got off the train  
 and proceeded to Cashmere which is about 2  
 miles distance - where we found how matters  
 stood as related above. - Mr McKee was sur-  
 prised because he had warned them not to  
 fish at all during close season for pickrel,  
 Mr Atkins a buyer at Bothwell who shipped  
 several barrels of pickrel from there this year,  
 informed me he had only seen one load of  
 pickrel in the village during the close season  
 offered for sale, he could not tell who the per-  
 son was who had them in his possession. -

Below Chatham, the fishermen of the Thames,  
 were very observant of the pickrel close sea-  
 son. - The fishing at Cashmere has been  
 a great success this season. - -

It was reported to me in Chatham  
 that the fishermen from Mitchell's bay, Lake  
 St Clair had been selling haps in the market  
 on the 25. of April, but this was explained to me,  
 that the close time for haps in Lake St Clair,  
 does not commence until some time in  
 May. -

Respectfully Submitted,

Hon. Minister  
 Ottawa,  
 Canada,

I have the  
 John W. Kerr



My dear Sir,

On my return home after a tour, I got your note with proposall to rent all yourself at the request of the other fishermen. -

I have no objection to offer, -  
 please send me at once your license  
 for 4 dollars, and I will then apply  
 for, and get your license for you,  
 Yrs respectfully

all I. Purdy  
 Vienna, Onto

Johell W. Kerr  
 St. Charles  
 6. May 1874,

Sir,

4. May 1874.

In reply to the petition - represented to be that of Mrs Altha Harris, of Turkey point, I have simply to say that I was at Turkey point on the 14. of April last, warning the fishermen not to fish, nor catch, nor kill "pickers" during the close season - When Mr John Jackson a fisherman, then and there told me that Wm Helms, was going round <sup>with a petition</sup> getting it signed so as to take from Wm Snooks fishing Station No: 1. and give it to Mrs Altha Harris, his the said Jacksons daughter - Jackson said he hoped I would not blame her, - as she had no hand in the petition. - This statement appears to be true, for you can distinguish for yourself that William Helms, S. McCall, M. P. P., and James Thompson signed first - Altha Harris, S. McCall, M. P. P., and James Thompson - this petition also signed just, &c. -

The petition says: -

1st <sup>3</sup> That fishing Station No: 1 - on the said Turkey point, and parts adjacent thereto, was for a long time prior to the renting of the same by the Govt occupied by one Jesse Snooks, and was first rented to the said Jesse, who in the year 1864 sold and conveyed all his right and improvements thereon to one Fred<sup>ly</sup> Simons. -

In reply, I have simply to state for your information, that this is the first time I have ever heard Fred<sup>ly</sup> Simons's name in connection with this fishing. - - The simple facts being that Jesse Snook, after clearing the fishing ground, gave it to his nephew the present occupant, this was before I took charge at T. point - please refer to my former report dated 15. of April 1870, and 26<sup>th</sup> of January 1871. -

2. That the said Fred <sup>W</sup> Simons, in the year 1865, sold and conveyed all his right in, and improvements upon Station No. 1, to one Richard Gerrie, deceased, husband of the said Altha Gerrie. - -

In reply, I have simply to say, this statement is not correct so far as heretofore represented to me by Wm. Snook - Mrs Gerrie has never, in all her conversations with me, and all her writings sent the Fishery department mentioned the name of Simons in connection with this station, that I am aware of: why she has <sup>never</sup> ~~not~~ done so, is a mystery to me. - -

3. That in the year 1866, the said fishing station No. 1, was leased by John W. Kerr of the City of Hamilton, Fishery Officer, to the said Altha Gerrie, with the understanding that she should have the first right to a new lease the next and each succeeding year. -

In reply, I have the honor to report, and refer you to my previous reports thereon made on the 15. of April 1870, which contains all the facts in this case. -

4. - That the Leases of the Fishery on said Turkey point are and have always been annual leases with the understanding that the lessee should have the first right to the new lease in each succeeding year. -

In reply, I have to report that there never was any understanding of the kind - the course pursued by me in this case was approved of, by the department on each occasion



when formerly brought before the department by S. M. Ball Esq<sup>r</sup> M. P. P. - and Peter Laussou M. P. - There is now no new feature in the case presented in this petition. - - -

5. That although the said Altha Harris did promptly pay her rent, and has always conducted herself in a lawful and becoming manner, and altho she requested the said John W. Kerr to renew her lease for the next year he refused <sup>so</sup> to do, but leased the said fishing to one Wm. Snook, and has continued to lease to the said Snook up to the present time as the wishes and protestations of the said Altha Harris. -

In reply, I have only to refer you to my former communication on this subject, my answers are satisfactorily explained to you in my reports dated 15 April 1870, and 26 of January 1871, and I have nothing further to add here. - -

6. That the said Altha Harris has year after year, applied to lease the said fishing station, but that the said John W. Kerr has always refused. - -

In reply to these assertions I may simply say; she has done nothing of the kind since the year 1871. -

7. That the said Altha Harris, is a widow with a family of seven children the eldest boy being about 13 years of age with no property except the fishing ~~station~~ apparatus left by her late husband, and no means of supporting her family except by fishing and that by the refusal of the said John W. Kerr to lease to her she has been reduced



to poverty, and she has, and her children have suffered great injury -

In reply, I have simply to state that after Wendrook was confirmed in his right of posn to this fishing station, No: 1, I have done everything in my power to assist Mrs Harris, sometimes charging neither her, nor her brother D. Jackson, who fished the seine any license fee, and never charging her more than five dollars annually for a boat & miles of portage. -

The net left 12 years ago, when her husband died is worn up altogether long ago, her son Charles is now a boy of 17, or 18 years of age, He has as good a seine as any other fisherman on St. Point and to him upon my recommendation you have given the licenses this year. ---

He has a good spring fishing ground in the inner bay, and about four miles of the outer bay, to haul and fish upon and all for the small sum of ten dollars. - I may here add that I have had no complaint of any kind from Mrs Altha Harris for the last three years - This petition of Wendrook got up to the contrary - notwithstanding. ---

I may here venture to say, with the abundant haul and fish taken, as I witnessed made by Charles Harris on the 9. day of April last, there is not now, and should be no further cause of complaint. -

8. That the said Wendrook holds several other fishing stations, bearing the No: 1, taken by aforesaid person

the aforesaid Altha Harris, &c., &c., &c., &c.,  
 &c., &c., &c., &c., &c., &c., &c.,

I have much pleasure in again stating  
 for your information, that W. Brooks has done much  
 to build up the fishing of P. point - still when he  
 breaks the law, I fine him for doing so. - please  
 refer to my letter to you of the 4. of April  
 last, this letter appears to have satisfied you  
 that you considered Brooks entitled to the  
 diminished <sup>three</sup> fishing being haul grounds for which  
 he paid 50 - and that I recommended him <sup>to you</sup> for  
 consideration - and to which you have been  
 pleased to give your sanction, the fish  
 two series continually on the front beach,  
 after the spring fishing in the river bay  
 terminates. - - -

In reply to this I have only to say  
 that I could never discover that Altha  
 Harris had any claim whatever to  
 fishing station No. 1. - and this view  
 the Department has heretofore con-  
 curred in. As regards the Brooks  
 holding several grounds, <sup>all of which</sup>  
 is respectfully submitted. - - -

Yours faithfully,  
 John W. Kent

Hon. Minister

H. H. H.

Attawa,

My dear Sir,

I am informed that W. Krell and another person who bought a seine from James Greenholt of Hornumdale is now fishing at Port Dover. - This I have known for some time, and unless the License fee<sup>#6</sup> with a proper application is sent me at once, I shall have to take proceedings against them. - Will you be pleased to do me a kindness in communicating this matter to them for me.

Believe me very sincerely,

James Riddell Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Port Dover,  
Onto.

Yours

John W. Kerr,  
Registrar

8. May 1874.

X

Friday, 8. May 1874.,  
at St Catharines to see Sheriff Woodruff,  
relative to pickeral being Leachs property<sup>#3</sup>  
during close season. Leach explained  
that a barrel was sent to him from  
Buffalo, - and he was ignorant of the  
law in the matter - thought he could  
sell them when he got them from the  
states - the thing being questioned - he  
would take no more of them until  
after close time went out at 7.30. a.m.  
came in 5.30. p.m., miles 76, - Ry fare<sup>#4</sup>  
2.20, dinner 40 - cab hire 50. - - - saw  
Peter Bath - who complained of per-  
sons for fishing for. Catching and kil-  
ing pickeral. -



Sir,

4. May 1874.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> instant, with copies of petitions sent by Wm. Stelmer, and Mrs A. Gorrie - respecting certain fishing stations at S. point, upon which please send your report immediately. --

In reply to the petition of Wm. Stelmer of 2<sup>nd</sup> pt 1<sup>st</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> That all leases of the fisheries of the said S. pt are and have always been annual leases, with the understanding that Lessee should have the first right for the next year, and each succeeding year. --

I beg most respectfully to report that there is no understanding whatever on this subject - because under Circular dated the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1873.

The giving out of all the Licenses depends altogether on the action of the Department at Ottawa, upon my unobjectionable recommendation. I send copy of License to be approved of before an original license is issued by the department for me to countersign and deliver. -- This year by instructions from you I made a redistribution of the Fisheries at Turkey point, which entirely annuls this alleged objection altogether. --

2, That Station three of the said fishing was leased by the Government to one James Crockett, for the year 1873, and for many years previous thereto. --

This objection is strictly correct. --

3. That in the month of August, in the year 1873 - the said James Crockett, sold, conveyed all his right as Lessee of said Station No. 3, - and all the improvements thereon and all his fishing nets, and appliances and the good will of the said station to the said



W<sup>m</sup> Helmer, and the Officer of the Government  
 was one John W. Kerr of the City of Hamilton,  
 in the said Province was then present and  
 endorsed in writing on the lease a trans=  
 fer thereof to the said Helmer, and then pro=  
 mised the said Helmer, that he should have  
 the first right to the lease of the said sta=  
 tion for the next and each succeeding  
 year. - - -

In reply to this, I have to reply, that I  
 was in Turkey Point, on the 31<sup>st</sup> of July, and on  
 the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August 1873. - Prose=  
 cuting for Contaventions of the Fisheries Act, I  
 remember James Crockett coming to me on  
 one of these days, and saying he had dis=  
 posed of his House and place to W<sup>m</sup> and  
 George Helmer, had sold them his old lease  
 and he wished to know if the Helmers,  
 could fish out his license for the balance of  
 the year, as he (Crockett) was going to move  
 away. - After due Consideration, I assented  
 and I made a pencil memorandum to that  
 effect on the back of the license for the year  
 1873. - I was not present at any agreement  
 made between Crockett, and W<sup>m</sup> Helmer;  
 nor do I know up to this present moment  
 what that agreement was. - And I did not  
 confirm the sale and Conveyance beyond  
 what I have state, because I then felt  
 I would not be justified in doing so,  
 And I did not promise that W<sup>m</sup> Helmer  
 should have first right, nor any right  
 to the license of the said station for the  
 next, and each succeeding year. - - -

Beyond writing Helmer a letter dated  
 9. February last, Copy sent you on

with my report of 30, of March last, I have never had any conversation about this fishing lot whatever, I confess to you however that I told Crockett at the time - that Stelms purchasing his squatters right on B: pt. did not entitle him nor his brother George Stelms to any claim whatever to the fishing station alluded to. - - -

By my application to you of the 22<sup>d</sup> of December last, I applied for permission to divide the fishing grounds at B: pt. and when at Ottawa, in conversation with Mr. W. J. Whitcher the Commissioner, on the 23. and 24. of December last, I brought this matter under his notice, and then and there stated my objections to having Stelms and his brother occupy Crockett's fishing after the termination of the latter's license which would expire on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December, then ensuing. - They are as Mr Henry Kilmaster of Port Rowan recently told me disreputable characters. - - -

4. That the said Stelms has made application to the said John W. Kerr asking a lease of said fisheries for the year 1874, and stating that he was prepared to pay therefor, and the said John W. Kerr has refused to give the lease to the said Stelms. -

In reply, I have no hesitation in stating that Mr Stelms did make application to me for a license of this fishing station B: 3 - for 1874, now referred to, but it was subsequent to my application to you of the 19. of January 1874, after my consulting with Mr Whitcher and at a time when my decision was become adverse to his getting a license. - To this letter, I have now the honor <sup>again</sup> to refer you. - - Your Circular of the 1<sup>st</sup> of May

1873 - gives me an undoubted authority to do this, thus: When application is made to you, by any fisherman for a license to fish, and you consider the same unobjectionable, you will please fill up a blank form, &c. &c. &c. please refer to this circular. - - My objections are therein stated without disguise of any kind whatever on my part. - -

5. That from the time the said James Crockett, assigned the lease of said station No: 3, to the said Wm Helmer, he the said Helmer has been in the possession and occupation of said station up to the time of the expiration of the said lease - and that the seine, reel, boat, fish box, house and other appliances belonging to the said Helmer are and always have been on the grounds of said station No: 3. - Since the said Helmer came into possession of the same. - -

In reply to these assertions, I believe all the fishing gear referred to, were on the ground and Squatters right Helmer purchased in front of fishing station No: 3, but fishing stations - proper, as I distinctly understood them are entirely confined to the water in which there are none of those things. - The present lessee James Dease, can fish there without intruding on Helmer's purchase. -

I believed when Crockett moved away, he disposed of all the personal property referred to. - - -

6. That the said Helmer has always conducted himself in careful and proper manner, and that he has never rendered himself liable for any breach of the Fisheries Act. - - -



In reply to this assertion I may say; William Helmer has forgotten himself, - please refer to my letter to you of the 30. of March last - there! When I got to the V. Pt. on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March, I found that Wm. Helmer, & crew, had been fishing notwithstanding my remonstrance made three hauls on the ground, without a license, -

If he has not done so, often it is because he was so well watched by the local Guardian, who cautioned him, as to the consequences - please refer to my letter to you of 19. January last. -

7. - That inasmuch as the said Helmer - if permanently deprived of the lease of said station No. 3. - will sustain great pecuniary loss, and being as your petitioners respectfully submit entitled by long established custom to the renewal of said lease your petitioners pray that the said Wm. Helmer may receive the lease of the said station for the year 1874. -

In reply to this, I can conscientiously say, that Helmer is not reliable in the statements; what he says here may or may not be true. - I have had no opportunity of ever knowing what Helmer paid Brockell, for the things he says he bought from him. -

The old prejudicial customs so destructive to the fisheries at Turkey Point, are now nearly obsolete and extinct. - - The fishery's act, its Rules and Regulations, Circulars &c, have at length overcome almost insurmountable obstructions, placed in my way, and through which I have waded to this happy result. - I gave no countenance to Helmer's purchase whatever, beyond what I have already stated, The fishermen of V. Point, knew that



I would not recommend Stelmer for a license of this fishery - I gave him no expectation on this head. - I only permitted Stelmer to fish out Bocketts license, because I found I could not well do otherwise, as Bockett himself could do this whether or not. -

8. - And that the said John W. Kerr for this, and many other acts of injustice and partiality committed in his official capacity of Officer of Fisheries may be removed from his said office and that an officer may be appointed who will discharge his important duties irrespective of politics and Creed. - And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray: -

In reply to these allegations I have simply to refer you to my numerous official reports made from time to time against the fishermen of V. Point, for repeated contravention of the Fishing Act, committed by them which will convince you that neither politics nor Creed have had any influence whatever with me in the discharge of my public duty. - I treat them all alike. -

I took no part whatever at the last General Election beyond the little incident of recommending and encouraging John S. Mackenzie Esq. of this City to <sup>run</sup> John Stuart Esq. as a Candidate to oppose Peter Lawson in the South Riding of Norfolk, where he asked my opinion as a friend on the subject. -

Personally, I have myself no feelings in this nor any other case to gratify. I simply pursue a straight course forward, if persons become amenable to the law,

and fishing net, and obnoxious to other fishermen I have always communicated the matter to you - I keep nothing back, everything that happens, is faithfully recorded by me, and sent to you. ---

In conclusion, I have the honor to tell you, that no peace would reign on St. Pt. if Holmes or his brother George were again to receive a fishing license. - I gave them a fair trial before. - The result was of such a nature as to be condemned by all the other fishermen there and myself. -

I give to you this simple unvarnished tale, which I hope will meet your approbation not caring to say any more on this subject. -

I Have the Honor to be  
Y. Y. Y.

Hon. Minister,  
Y. Y. Y.  
Ottawa,

John W. Kent  
Quebec.

Sir.

6. May 1874. -

In reply to your letter of the 5<sup>th</sup> inst. just received - in which you say: "Please explain to what communication from this department you refer as addressed to you two years (ago) since, and now done away with by my letter of the 27<sup>th</sup> ultimo, respecting illegal fishing at Niagara?" - -

I have the honor most <sup>humbly</sup> respectfully to apologize for using the language which has attracted your attention. - -

I may say with all candour and sincerity that the quotation you allude to had no special reference to the fisheries of the Niagara River, at Fort Erie, in particular but extended in fact to the remotest hidden corner of my district - and all the other Districts of the extensive fisheries <sup>dept</sup> of the Dominion. - - -

In doing this, I now quote what I had reference to, was a Circular from the Hon: Minister of Marine and Fisheries dated Department of Marine and Fisheries Ottawa - 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1871. - -

My reply, a remonstrance to this Circular dated 2. day of June 1871, - addressed to the Hon: The Minister of Marine and Fisheries Ottawa - and to which I respectfully refer you - will to some extent if not all together justify me in asking so simple a question, which had I not then other game in view, - other contraventions of the Fisheries Act, &c. &c. to look round quickly after in other localities. - I could have stopped there at Fort Erie and prosecuted to Conviction and then

reported full proceedings - as I hope I have since  
done for your information satisfactorily: -

I have a tremendous deal before me  
just at present. -

God only knows that I never desire to  
utter words, that will bring me in contact with  
you, and the department. - - -

I merely asked the question more as a  
proof - that you might learn I was at my  
post during the picket close season,  
than to create any discussion with you my  
superior - passing as I was then rapidly  
over my district. - - - -

I hope this explanation after you have  
read my lengthy letter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June  
1871 - in reply to the circular of the previous  
1<sup>st</sup> of May 1871 - herein alluded to, will  
be deemed by you in all things satis-  
factorily. -

Yours sincerely

He . He . He .

I have &c

John W. West

Manager

30



"Private."

My dear Sir,

I am informed that Wm. Kell, and another person who bought a seine from James Overholt of Abolmardale are now fishing in Lake Erie, at Port Dover. - This I have however known for some time, and unless the license fee - six dollars with a proper application to fish there is at once sent me, I shall have to take proceedings against them. - "For no man can fish nets, &c. in any of the waters of the Province of Ontario &c without a license from the Department of Marine and Fisheries"

Will you be pleased to do me and those persons a kindness by communicating this matter to them for me. - In respect to a report published in a local paper - that I was dismissed - I have not seen nor heard of it until Hon. H. B. Paul told me Stoney Kilmer, S. McCall, Bill Helmer, Jiffie of Honeyville - and Doctor Salmon of Simcoe, having been saying a great deal about it - but thank Providence it is easier said than done. -

I have more friends - than foes! - but I expect have no occasion to call their services yet into operation - and whenever I am, it will be to crowd down everything before me - With kind regards to your brother &c. &c. I believe me  
Very Sincerely

Yours John W. Kerr  
8. May 1874.

James Riddell Esq  
J. R. 4. 4. 34.  
Port Dover,

Sir,

9. May 1874.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> of May, in which you are pleased to refer as follows:  
In 1872 - &c. &c. &c. - -

In reply I have the honor to state that my application of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 16. of September in behalf of George A. Lacey, of Hornedale - Hillsburg - which you then favorably received: you were pleased to renew to him the privilege you had previously granted him, and to which you now refer to me, for further information on the subject.

I will here take the liberty of referring you to my report to you, dated 31<sup>st</sup> of October 1873, in which you will please find the following passage: - "Then there is Mr George A. Lacey, of Hornedale, Hillsburg, in the same Township and County - he has 1000 parent fish in his ponds besides several thousand young fish of last years hatching out. - Mr Lacey expects to lay down 150,000 eggs or ova this season. - I regret to tell you, Mr Lacey met with a serious loss last spring - when 20,000 of his choice fish escaped, by his dam giving way, being swept away by a freshet."

The only thing further that has since come to my knowledge is that: Mr Samuel Whitcomb applied to Mr Lacey, and Hull, a short time ago, about speckled Trout, when he received a reply from Lacey - and Hull - that Trout could not be had there, in fact not till 1<sup>st</sup> of May, and then to be taken with hook and line. - This reply of course should be taken to mean that they would not give any away during close season. - not to Mr Whitcomb in any season, because they are both competitors of his - but operating under your sanction and consent upon their own private means. -

"If you want Trout from either of them at any time - I am aware you can have them."

If Lacey, or Hull, have abused the privileges you have granted them, it is without my knowledge, and contrary to my wishes - they have always shown a disposition to the contrary. - and placed in your position, I would receive the report with great caution unless borne out by positive proof, of the facts been committed that you allude to. -

In ten days more I hope to get through my hurried pickered close season cases, and I will then run up to Alton, Ilex, and Hillsburg - where I can easily find out for you, if the report you refer to is correct. - and if it is true you may depend upon me that you shall have all the particulars in full. -

My report - of 31<sup>st</sup> of October last, "twenty first paragraph" - will at once show you, what about Lacey had then on hand. - If they are not still in his possession - where are they, and what has become of them? -

He will have to account for them in a satisfactory manner. - as sure as he lives, besides my confidence in him will be for ever gone. -

The Hon. The Minister,

H. H. H.

Omanua.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr,  
Sergeant.

My dear Sir,

In reply to your application to fish - Trout gill nets - in Lake - in front of the Frenchmans bay - I have to inform you that by sending me ten dollars - I shall apply for, and get you a license - I heard you had been already fishing.

Yours: Mark -  
Frenchmans Bay. -

I Have &c  
John W. Kerr  
Deputy  
11. May 1874.

Remember you can take no  
other gill nets, but your Obedt -  
J. W. Kerr



My dear Sir, — Hamilton. Onto.

I am in receipt of yours of 7<sup>th</sup> inst. stating - "There was a fisherman here to day your Cashmere he told me that you had been there, and told the fisherman there, that I had sent you word that they were catching fish out of season." -

In reply, I tell you candidly I done nothing of the kind, and for the satisfaction of your fisherman and all others whom it may concern, I may here say: that you never gave me any such information. —

George Bunce  
Fish Dealer,  
London E.C.

Yrs Truly,  
John W. Kerr  
Sunderland

11. May 1874.

P.S. Why man I don't know you by name. heard your name mentioned by some person at Cashmere, for the first time. —  
John W. Kerr

12. May 1874.

Charles Shale - paid me. as follows;

- |                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| 1, Chester A. Harris | 2.50, |
| 2, John Harris.      | 2.50. |
| 3, David Harris.     | -.50. |
| 4, George Hale.      | -.50. |
| 5, John Burgett.     | 2.50  |

$\frac{1}{2}$  fines as prosecutor.  
John W. Kerr.

12, May 1874,

o.

Sir,

13. May 1874,

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque  
No: 18, for the sum of \$20. This amount you will  
be pleased to apply for licenses received by me  
for Peter Miller & Coy - to fish in Sulphur Creek -  
west of Malden and Creek Bridges in the  
township of Dunn. - - - Please refer to my letter  
to you, of the 23. of April last. -

Hon: Minister

I have &c.

&c. &c. &c.

Ottawa,

John W. Kerr

&c.

Monday - 11. May 1874. -

at St. Catharines - and Niagara, up on the  
fishing grounds to the jaws - no white fish  
caught yet. - went out at 8. a. m. came in  
at 6. p. m. miles 54. - Ry fare \$1.10, stage <sup>4</sup>50  
dinner tea and bed \$1.00 &c. - - 149 to 1.50 - 2<sup>00</sup> \$4.10 &c.

Tuesday, 12. May 1874,

at Niagara, St. Bridge, Fort Erie and Dun-  
ville. went out at 6. a. m. came in at  
3.30. p. m. - miles 94. Railway fare <sup>4</sup>2.40,  
breakfast, dinner, tea and bed \$1.00 &c.

Wednesday, 13. May 1874. -

at Dunville - received \$20. from David Price  
for Peter Miller - the two birds - and second -  
went from thence to Malden and home  
to Hamilton - went out 9. a. m. came  
at 3.30. p. m. miles 52. Ry fare <sup>4</sup>1.15  
breakfast <sup>4</sup>25. - - 1.40 x 1.60 = 3.00,

Sir,

13. May 1874,

In reply to your telegram. - I have the honor to report that Charles Ferris - has had his name inserted in the license this current year, in his mother's place, at his and his mother's request - to fish for her. - Last year the license issued to Charles and his mother Alpha Ferris. -

Charles Ferris - is in charge this year, and was last year of the seine. - He fishes for, catches the fish - he sells the fish. - He is competent to do so. His two younger brothers and a boy named Barclay with himself comprise the crew. - - -

There was no reason assigned to me for substituting the name of Charles Ferris alone in the license for the current year. - - He is bona fide the fisherman with his mother's sanction, and was so last year. - His mother never fishes! - He merely takes the place of his mother, and for her, as I understand it. - -

I shall at once run up at S. point, get the number of all the lots, and Concession in front of which all the fishing grounds at Sunking point are situated, during this year, and last year, I will let you have this early next week. -

By comparing the copy of License in your possession with the Map of the Township of Charlotteville, - you will at once see where all the fisheries at S. pt. are situated there this year. -

I presume this will be sufficient without going to the expense of employing a surveyor to get up plans. -  
I have just got home from

Niagara, Fort Erie, and Dunville (3.30 p.m.) hence  
why this telegram was not sooner answered, -

I have &c

Hon. Minister -

&c, &c, &c.

Ottawa,

John W. Kerr

Sir, -

9. May 1874,

With reference to a petition laid before  
you - the Minister by Alvinus Irving Esq. M. P. -  
for leave for the fishermen at B. Beach, L. Ontario  
to seine fish, for white fish, between the 30<sup>th</sup> of May,  
and 1<sup>st</sup> of August with seines, containing legal  
sized meshes - and to which Mr. John F. Mackenzie  
one of the petitioners received a telegram from the  
Commissioner, which he handed me thus: "Minister  
views favourably petition presented by Mr Irving  
to allow fishermen to seine white fish in June,  
will write you - tell Kerr."

W. J. Whitcher,

Will you be pleased to include extend  
the permission to Toronto Island, - Jones Gulley, ~~Alvin~~  
again and Frenchmans Bay - Lake Ontario, and  
Turkey and Long points - Lake Erie. -

I may here report - for your information  
that seine hauling at Niagara is late there this  
season - no white fish there yet. -

I thank you for this favourable view  
of this matter - petitioned with my sanction  
as I have been obliged to bring it an-  
nually before the Department. -

I have &c

Hon. Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries

John W. Kerr

Ottawa,



W. J. Whitchee  
Fisheries Department  
Ottawa.

Swampy point li-  
censes all issued -  
since 16. of April last,  
sent department for  
them one hundred and ten dollars. - -

14. May 1874. - -

John W. B. B.

Sir,

11. May 1874,

With reference to your letter of 24. of  
March last, addressed to David Bisdale Esq<sup>r</sup>  
business. I may here take the liberty of stating  
for your information that this letter was given  
by John D. Mackenzie Esq<sup>r</sup> Secretary of the  
Long point Company to me for perusal by  
direction from David Bisdale Esq<sup>r</sup> to whom it  
was sent by the department. - - after I have  
perused it carefully, weighed its contents  
calmly, and fairly, I have no hesitation  
in stating that there is no part of this  
letter, attracts my attention so as to need  
any remark from whatever, - I hope I  
may be permitted to refer you to the fol-  
lowing clause: thus: "It is believed  
that a lucrative fishing business might be  
carried on in certain places around  
Long point - within the limits of the Com-  
pany's lease - especially on the Lake side,  
where proper capital and experience in-  
vested in the undertaking?"

I fully endorse and admit the senti-  
ments set forth in this paragraph - The  
limits of the Long point Company's lease  
extends outwards from the beach on Long  
point, into the waters of the Lake for  
a distance of five miles and this is in  
extent from the Light House to

the old cut upwards of 20 miles. ---

Agreeing then as I do with the Minister and the Commission-  
ers - "I see no reason why the Long Point Company  
should not be at liberty to exercise their legitimate privileges  
for their own benefit?" -

Permit me to remark and bring under your no-  
tice that beyond the extensive limits of the Long Point Com-  
pany's lease, in Lake Erie, and between the limits of the  
said lease and the boundary line between the Dominion  
of Canada and the United States, there is more than three  
times as much Lake and Lake Pontage, as the Long P<sup>t</sup>  
Company now hold occupy and exercise control over  
under their license (Lease) for fishing purposes. --- It  
is to this portion of Lake Erie - so valuable therefore, that  
I feel it my duty incumbent on me as your officer  
to draw your attention to. --- Whatever arrange-  
ments are made by the Long Point Company to ex-  
tend the fisheries they hold under a lease. --- The  
Department of Marine and Fisheries should through  
the Commissioners &c. at the same time if practica-  
ble lease to the Americans Capitalists this large  
expanse of Water of Lake Erie, I have here des-  
cribed and drawn your attention to, for fishing  
purposes. ---

When Mr. Mackenzie took me to the  
Counting House, - that I might read the letter,  
I drew his attention to the more valuable fisheries  
now referred to, for gill nets, that still ex-  
isted in Lake Erie, beyond and outside the  
boundaries of the Long Point Company's lease.  
Mr. Mackenzie saw the feasibility of what  
I then drew his attention to. --- It was then  
agreed, when the members of the Company  
held their meeting, the fisheries outside the  
lease should receive due attention. ---

Persons more competent to judge than I am, say, candidly - that it is here in these waters I refer you to, the immense body of white fish remain in summer &c. &c, that frequent Detroit River in October and November each year. ---

The public interests will be protected, and the clamors of the inhabitants of Norfolk - who are sure to find fault right or wrong can have no effect whatever if the Long Point Company can find American capitalists to fish the entire waters of Lake Erie lying between Long Point - given limits, and the boundary line. ---

The native fishermen at S. Point &c. &c, are I sincerely hope now fully provided for. ---

Perhaps it would be advisable for Mr. W. Hatcher - the Commissioner - when Long Pt. Company hold meeting referred to, to attend the same. ---

I feel it my duty without prejudice to lay this matter in this fair upright way before you. ---

I Have &c.

John W. Carr

Hon. Minister,

&c. &c. &c.

O. W. Carr

P. S. - By Mr. W. attending to this, the American capitalists won't have the best of the bargain. S. W. Carr



Sir,

16. May 1874.

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank Cheque No: 24 - for the sum of forty five dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows; for this current year. -

1. James Larose - balance in full of fishing station No: 3, at Turkey point - Lake Erie - License delivered. - \$10.00
2. James Beckes - License for small seine hauling ground in Inner bay - Long point - Lake Erie. - 3.00.
3. James Cockett - on acct of License fee for do, - and seineing ground on Long pt west of the New Cut. - township of Walsingham - 4.00.
4. Edward Beaupre - for license to fish set hooks and long lines, in the waters of the New Cut - Long point - Lake Erie. - - 4.00.
5. Messrs Wm. Krell, and James Low, for seine hauling ground in Lake Erie - at Port Dover, - township of Woodhouse. - 6.00.
6. Thomas Mansfield, - license to fish white fish gill nets in Lake Ontario, in front of Frauchman's bay. - - 10.00.
7. Thomas Purdy, license to fish in the Otter Creek, below the dam at Vienna township of Brantford. - - 4.00.
8. John Anderson - fined for having picked in his traps during close season - to wit. on the 24<sup>th</sup> of April, fined 2<sup>nd</sup> - 1/2 herewith. 1.00.
9. Wm. Krell, do. - do. on the 22<sup>d</sup> of April, fined 2<sup>nd</sup> half of same - herewith. - 1.00.
10. James Low, do. do. do. - 1.00.
11. Oscar Hewson - License for a small seine hauling ground at Turkey point, L. Erie for current year. - - 1.00

The Hon:

Minister

Ottawa

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr

Total, \$ 45.00.



Sir,

18. May. 1874. -

I am in receipt of your letter of the 12<sup>th</sup> instant, in reply to mine of the 2<sup>d</sup> instant. -

You misapprehended me a little, - all the fishermen I referred to "except the hands" - had licenses it appears, but had fished during close season - for hals, pickerel &c. &c, Contrary to Mr McKee's order - please refer to my letter. -

I shall prosecute every one, but as Mr McKee told me positively there was a special order in Council to permit the fishing for, catching and killing of hals - in Lake St Clair, at Mitchell bay - between the 15. of April, and 1<sup>st</sup> of May in each year. - And as I am not in poss<sup>n</sup> of any such order in Council, nor have I any knowledge of it whatever beyond his assertion - Will thank you to inform me at once on this subject. - -

I have all the names of the offenders I made them hang up their Series, where at Cashmere. - There was no fishing carried on in the Thames below Chatham - Mitchell bay is in Lake St Clair, near Mallaburg about 18 miles north from the Light &c at the mouth of the River. - -

Yours Minister  
 &c. &c. &c.  
 Wm. Wm.

I Have &c.  
 John W. Kerr  
 O.

Thursday, 14. May 1874.

at Caladonia, Jarvis, Simeon & Turkey point, went up there to get up report called for by the Whitchey telegram - and heard what transpired - when lately up there. --- went out at 7. a. m. - off to Whitchey with pickaxe & shovel. - came in at 4.30. p. m. - Mile 62. St. B. 2.00, Railway fare 1.45, meals 15, dinner 40, supper 25, bed 25¢ - thence to S. pt. from Simeon 1.50.  
 2<sup>6</sup> 3/4 \$ 6.00

Friday, 15. May 1874. -

at Turkey point, thence round deep hole point, and up to Port Roman - had John Anderson before me, I paid him 2, see my report - telegraphed for Peter Price, went up to Port Royal to see Hanson and Owen Bowers. --- back again thence to St. Williams, and on to Port Dover, - James Larose - paid me ten dollars, the balance of his rent - for lot 3 - Turkey point. --- Peter Price gave \$4, gave John Bockett, and three from James Peckham. - I gave Peter \$20. - paid for Boat 2.50, paid for five dinners and suppers 2, Horse and Saddle to Port Dover - and Horse keep \$3, went out 7. a. m. came in at 12, m. night - Miles 40 - Peter complained of many pains. --- gave Peter written order about Simeon W. J. close time. ---

Saturday 16. May 1874.

at Port Dover, - saw Billy Kroll, and James Lowe, they paid license fee \$6. on apt. - I was obliged to give them 2, each, - for having picked up their dogs - see my reports; which they paid. - thence to Simeon, saw Col. Goodale home by Railway. - went out at 5. a. m. came in at 2. p. m. Miles about 56. St. B. 2.00. Ry fare 1.45, Board, and bed 1.50. See reports which follow. 4.95

Sir,

18. May 1874,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> instant, in which you say: "Please inform me if any, and what duty has been performed by the Peter Price as Fishing Guard, since the 31<sup>st</sup> of December last?" -

In reply, I have the honor to report ~~for~~ that there was no duty for him to perform - until the close season for pickrel, halibut, and maskewonge arrived - when acting under my orders - he done his duty, & behaved faithfully - a good many people are down on Peter Price, and write all kinds of stories about him, it is said: to John Stewart Esq<sup>r</sup> M.P. - for South Norfolk - whom Peter voted against, at the last Election. - -

I communicated your orders to him in person - that his services were dispensed with but he asked to be retained until the end of the half year. -

I shall have, I expect, several cases to prosecute for catching, fishing for, and having pickrel in pots during close season. - May I retain him until then, for this and <sup>an</sup> other purpose - Written to Mr. Whiteher privately about. -

I Have &c.  
John W. Kerr -

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister  
&c. &c. &c.  
Ottawa,

Sir,

18. May 1874.

I am in receipt of yours of the 12, instant, respecting Mr. Lacey, - I shall scrutinize him closely, after a little you may depend upon me. - I only require to be stirred up a little to clean them all out, and make them to the mark. - They all, every one of them, require close watching.

The Hon. Secy.

The Minister

H. H. H.

O'Hara,

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr. -

Sir,

18. May 1874.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 12, of May instant, I shall remit the full amount of the fines levied upon the offenders at Fort Erie, by Mr. Treble, the local magistrate there, in a few days, with the best feelings imaginable, sworn as I am to obey all orders. - They are not all paid in yet, but when they are, you shall receive them correctly, and this will be to you, a proof positive that I done my duty.

The Hon. Secy.

The Minister

H. H. H.

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr  
a.



Sir,

19. May 1874,

I have the honor to report for your information that at Port Roman, County of Norfolk, on Friday last, I fined John Anderson of Port Roman, for having picked in his possession on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of April last, "close season" - two dollars - and at Port Dover - in the same County - on Saturday morning last, I fined Wm. Kell and James Lowe, two dollars each for a similar offence committed by them there on 22. of April last; They admitted the offence which admission - I took into consideration in giving my decision, because they expressed regret.

John Price was Complainant; -

Walter Bantam, was witness against John Anderson he is son to - Bantam - formerly of Ryerse Island Long Point, represented as going round with a petition - urging fishermen to sign against me. - because I enforce the fisheries act, ag<sup>t</sup> every man without distinction of politics or Creed. -

I sent you three dollars - half of these fines - on the 16<sup>th</sup> instant,

Hon<sup>r</sup> Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries  
Ottawa,

I Have &c. &c.  
John W. Kerr  
A,

My dear Sir,

20. May 1874.

Will you be pleased to inform me how the  
seining for white fish is getting on. - Have you had any  
success, - Tell Mr James Cantwell to send me fifteen dol-  
lars - ten for his seine ground - five for his boat and gill  
net license. He is the only fisherman at Niagara who  
has not applied for a license this year. - -

Whether he despise or advises the Grange of  
fisheries - he must adhere strictly to the law. -

Give my kind respects to Mr Elliott, your  
mother, and children, and best wishes for your  
own prosperity.

I am as ever - Sincerely yours,

John W. Kerr

St. Paul

Mr Thomas Elliott,  
Niagara - Ont.

My dear Sir,

Will you be so good as to send  
me your license fee at once for this current year,  
\$10, don't delay, let me have it forthwith.

I saw a gentleman from Pt. Rowan on Friday,  
last, at Port Rowan a friend of yours - He informed  
me, you done well, -

Yrs Truly,

John W. Kerr

St. Paul

19. May 1874

Mr W. Elliott  
Fisherman  
Pt. Rowan,

Sir,

19. May 1874.

I have the honor to submit for your consideration the case of Peter Bath - fisherman - Port Dalhousie, Lake Ontario - as follows; Mr. Bath was convicted before me at Port Dalhousie on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 1873. - for fishing for, catching and killing eels, and pickerel between the 15 of April and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 1873, to wit on 17. of April 1873, - within the limits described in a license issued by the Department to Joseph Woodruff Esq<sup>r</sup> of St. Catharines, - the same being in the Welland Canal at Port Dalhousie. - for this offence - proved by the evidence of two credible witnesses, which was borne out by the voluntary admission of the defendant himself, a fine of two dollars was inflicted by me, and the seine was confiscated in accordance with the 13. section of the Fisheries Act. -

During close season, this year, for pickerel, eels, &c., this season. - Peter Bath, has made himself very efficient in preventing persons from violating the law, in that behalf, he has also caught persons, whom he has complained of to me for contravention of the Fisheries Act. -

I recommend that you will be pleased to allow me to restore his seine to him, which is worth \$5, with a caution by you as to his future strict observances of the Fisheries Act - its rules in Council and Regulations. -

I Have &amp;c.

Hon: Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
Deputy

Sir,

20. May 1874.

Will you be pleased to send me Original licenses - for the following persons - Copies of some are herewith: thus:

1. Thomas Mansfield. - Frenchman's Bay, L. Ontario.
2. Edward Beaupre Long point, Lake Erie,
3. M<sup>r</sup> Krell, and Sons, Port Dover - do.
4. Oscar Newton Turkey point. do.
5. James Cockett, Long point, do.
6. Thomas Pundy, Vienna - Otter Creek -

now sent herewith. -

I also want license for the undermentioned James Simon - Boat license applied for - and money sent you. See my letter of 12, of March last.

" for James Becker - the description in license - to be same as that issued last year, to Solomon Becker - Money 3<sup>d</sup> sent you 16, instant. - - -

" for Rich<sup>d</sup> Johnson fee 10<sup>4</sup>, sent you on 23<sup>rd</sup> of April last

and

Chester A. Barry sent back to have hunt curtailed. - - -

Hon: Ministers,

H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.

John W. West,  
Quebec



Sir,

16. May 1874.

which as common report has it are all supporters of John Street.

circulated by W. Helmer and others now have it. I believe them off.

I have just returned from N. B. and with reference to the petition of W. Helmer and Mrs Alpha Ferris I am directed by the undersigned fishermen there W. Snook and Crew, James Larose, David Jackson, Oscar, Hudson Robert Jackson - Frank Jackson, Richard Clarke, Jesse, Horis and Crew - and fish pedlars Daniel and Joseph Jackson and Walter Leard, to inform you, that on Thursday the 7th day of May instant, in W. Helmers House. John A. Backhouse, and J. W. Griffin Esqrs two Magistrates - assisted by Doctor Salmon of Helmer, who is a very busy body for Helmer, John Backhouse Jr. Lawyer - and Mathewson Lawyer - your witness who took down the evidence held a meeting, and had an examination of witnesses on oath - touching certain private clandestine matters and things that only certain interested parties should hear respecting Mrs Alpha Ferris and W. Helmers alleged fishing.

There was at this examination I heard James Ferris his wife and two sons - Jas. Schowmachers and his wife, old John Jackson - Mrs Alpha Ferris, - James Crockett, Walter Anderson - Jonathan Simons &c. &c. &c. but neither Snook, Larose, Peter Price nor any of those other persons named against whom false statements and unfounded assertions were made and taken down on oath were then present, no opportunity was given them of rebutting the charges those absent people preferred behind those peoples backs, when they ought to be there present. - It was for instance sworn by Jas. Schowmachers - so he told me that Larose told him last winter that Peter Price said - Larose - if you vote for Peter Lawson you shall have the fishing ground, meaning the ground also. 3, now in dispute. -

Peter Price - and James Larose most emphatically deny this. -- Larose did not vote at all at the last election in which Peter Larose was a Candidate, he had no vote, neither did Peter Price interfere in getting me to recommend the fishery referred to, to be licensed to James Larose, it all originated with myself, I am altogether responsible in doing this, as my reports made on the subject will already prove to you.

to When I found out that Crockett had prepared to leave St. Point, I made up my mind on his application to recommend Jas. Larose for the ground, because he was a man with a family of small children and then resident on St. Pt. I done so, and had no hesitation in doing it - Mr. Whitche who knows Jas. Larose favourably, will I trust say a word in his behalf. --

With respect to the assertion that Fred<sup>K</sup>, Simon's bought out No. 1. fishery now claimed by Mr. Alpha Ferris from Jesse Snook, this Mr. Snook denies - he says Simon's bought his ducks bounty, after words sold to the late Dick Ferris, but the fishery was handed over to him. - Jesse Snook is still alive and is a fisherman at Mitchell's bay, Lake St. Clair, Chatham N. office - Mr. Snook referred me to him. --

It appears Doctor <sup>Salmon of</sup> Larose has made himself very conspicuous in this matter because as a fact he refused to punt him on Long Pt during this spring while wild geese shooting, fishing being to him at the time a more profitable business. --

The Doctor got Mr. Helmer to punt him, in the place of Larose, hence Larose says, the reason why the Doctor animosity to him. - Larose was the <sup>only</sup> punter for several years past. - I myself know a long time ago, the Doctor, was very prominent in getting up Helmer's petition for him, the Doctor

sent and went five times for old John Jackson before he got him to attend the meeting. -

With regard to the Widow Alpha Ferris petition - W<sup>m</sup> Helmes has made many very improper and untruthful assertions about me. Charles Ferris represented as 13 years old was 18 years old 23. of December last. - -

Mr Alpha Ferris, told me on Thursday evening last, - that last year and this year he saw Charles since he took charge of the mine himself - has done well, all the profits being in the family except one hand share. - I expect to be dealt with by you in an <sup>honorable</sup> upright manner, the same as I was by your predecessor, and I don't fear them. - - If a disinterested person was appointed to enquire into matters and things I can show you whatever the evidence was as taken before John A. Backhouse and J. W. Jeffries Esq<sup>s</sup> J. P.'s - "Self appointed members of this Star Chamber Inquisition". - - As W<sup>m</sup> Snooks calls it, it can be disproved, and shown to be of an unfounded and malicious character. - Walter Anderson of Hornumdale I understand has since this enquiry, been written to by John Stuart Esq<sup>re</sup> M. P. - to procure for him the evidence on the other side, that is evidence not taken before the Star Chamber. - Mr Anderson, who is a friend of Helmes has since been attempting to do this. - He is not the person to be trusted with a delicate affair of this kind. - for while he sustains Snooks in retaining St<sup>m</sup> No: 1, as against the Widow Ferris, he goes tooth and nail for <sup>W<sup>m</sup></sup> Helmes to get St<sup>m</sup> No: 3 - because as I heard - it is arranged that Helmes will buy from him some acres of land he Anderson says, he owns on St<sup>m</sup> No: 3 in part of the land



ask disinterested persons - such for instance - Col<sup>d</sup>  
 Gisdale, John E. Mackenzie, John Browne Esq<sup>r</sup> in fact. -  
 any of these persons will tell you that Larose should  
 have the ground. - No traffic, no trade should be al-  
 lowed without the sanction of the dept<sup>y</sup> at Ottawa,  
 just had and obtained -

I heard from Abraham Simons - School teacher  
 on St. Point, last Thursday evening - that he drew up  
 the agreement between Stelver and Larose Kett, and Mr  
 Simons positively asserts I was not present, so that  
 as I said before p<sup>o</sup> 3, paragraph of Mr Stelver's pet<sup>n</sup>,  
 as far as I am individually concerned is false and  
 unfounded, except so far as truthfully told you  
 by myself. -

Peter Price, says he has done no wrong  
 he ~~except~~ expects a fair trial, and he wished me  
 to tell you so. - - -

I hope the Fisheries at St. Pt<sup>y</sup> Lake Erie will  
 still continue to be managed under the constitutional  
 law of the Dominion - the rules and regulations of the  
 dept<sup>y</sup> made by the Governor General in Council, upon  
 the recommendation of the Minister as heretofore,  
 and not according to petitions - obtained by fraud  
 upon misrepresentation and falsehoods. - -

Ever since I became connected with the  
 fisheries of St. Pt<sup>y</sup> & Long Pt<sup>y</sup> Lake Erie, - as you see  
 see, I have observed that M. P. - up there  
 seem to be elected by the mass of the people  
 with one main object in view, and that object  
 is, free fisheries at all seasons indiscriminately  
 without any law or control whatever, free to  
 all. - And squash up the Long Pt<sup>y</sup> company  
 the Long Pt<sup>y</sup> monopoly, as people are pleased  
 to hear it. - The whole proceedings taken by  
 John A. Backhouse & Co. is wrong, give Enock Larose  
 and Peter Price, fair play - don't condemn them  
 unheard.



The Long Pt<sup>3</sup> Company since they purchased that Island have done much to improve the fisheries in the surrounding waters, and have always shown a good example by leasing the fisheries in and secured their property themselves.

When I took charge up there, I was opposed on every occasion - there were no fish-licenses issued - no money received -

This year the dept<sup>y</sup> will receive \$209, from these fisheries - have already received \$137, of it, and the balance is sure. --

Time is a true fortune teller, those who live longest will know most. - Take the fishery from Snook, and give it to Mr. Ferris, and the fishery from Larose, and give it to Bill Stelms - because for once in his life he voted right; "And as he says he will have it." - And even were the dept<sup>y</sup> to <sup>do all</sup> this, weakle people of South Norfolk will not yet be satisfied. --

I hope as you have already done, you will still continue to do - maintain me in my present position, which I have arrived at, by great struggling, and dire and difficult obstructions numerously placed in my way: -

While doing my duty through good evil report, I have only had the one object in view, the prosperity of the fisheries in my charge.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries

Ottawa,

I Have &c, &c,

John W. Kerr  
Deputy

Sir,

18. May 1874.

In reply to your telegram, - Send immediately plans of fishing stations at "B. point". -

I have to report that the stations there are situated as follows; No: 1, is occupied and licensed this year to Wm. Snook, and has been since I took charge. - It is in front of part of lots 13, and 14, Conception A, of the township of Charlotteville, extends from the west side of a lane, or road going down Mountain on to beach to Cedar point. - Snook occupies and lives on the land on west side of lane, one acre, and the land on east side of lane one acre, he also has a large barn with stalls for 4 horses on the latter acre; he rents this land from Mr. Welch of Simcoe, for the use of the ex. M. P. of that name, and pays ten dollars per year, for the holding besides taxes. Snook is a School Trustee, on Turkey point. Pathmaster. - Mr. Welch also owns a portion of the beach in front of these two acres lots, situated in front of fishing station No: 1, on which Snook erected large keels to hold his seines. -

The balance of station No: 1, from Cedar point to Hornumdale taken from Snook this year, which is about one mile in extent has been applied for, by David Jackson of Hornumdale, who wants to clear a seine hauling ground on it. - Snook held from west side of lane to Hornumdale last year,

No: 2, is licensed to Frank Jackson. this year, it is in front of lot 13, - Conception A, B: of Charlotteville. - This is the station that was occupied by old John Jackson, a few years ago. - In 1871, I was induced at the urgent solicitation of these Helmers to rent a portion of this lot - not then fished on by John Jackson to Messrs. Meales and George Helmers, who had Wm. Helmer for pedlar - the result of that license soon dropped itself to the surface - please refer to two letters of mine to the Department, dated 4. of May 1871. - This piece of station No: 2, I gave back again.

this spring to Frank Jackson and it is included in his license. - The seine formerly fished on this ground being now lengthened out from 250, to 430 yards, to meet the requirements of the fishing ground. - This station altho extensive on beach narrows in outside in Lake, there is however plenty of room outside for the present seine. -

No: 3. - Licensed to James Larose, is situated in front of lot No: 12, Concepcion A, township of Charlottesville, still remains as it was when I took charge, except that Brackett, who occupied this, last year, has moved away, west of the New Cut - Long Pt. - Lake Erie. - Brackett, was fined repeatedly for contraventions of the Fisheries Act, the last time he was fined was during white fish close time last summer when he presented J. W. Griffin Esq. J. P. - of Forrestville, a Mass of the fish he had fished for, and caught in contravention of the Fisheries Act. - This is the same Mr. Griffin who sat in private Conclave - the 7th inst. took evidence on oath behind other peoples backs for some offence or another - and sent the same as I heard to John Stuart Esq. M. P. to be laid before the fishing department. - Mr. Stuart is too honorable I hope to do such things. -

This station was rented last year for ten dollars to Brackett, who is a man of very intemperate habits, was recently in Jail for beating his wife he is replaced by a man of good habits, who paid 20 for it, this year. -

No: 4. fishing station is occupied by Wm. Snook is in front of lot No: 11, Concepcion A, township of Charlottesville. He held it last year, and for several years previously. -

No: 4½. - just applied for, by Oscar Hewson



was occupied last year by James Larose, it is rented for one dollar this year, subject to your approval, so as to give the licensee an opportunity of clearing the ground. . . . This will be in front of a portion of lot No: 11, - Concession A, of Charlotteville. . . .

No: 5 - fishing station - is in front of lot No: 10. - and extends from the Willows to deep hole point. - This station is occupied by Charles Terrie - the Willows son, a boy 18 years old, who has two good hauls, at the Willows, just beside his shanty. . . . Another at deep hole, while all the balance of this ground about four miles from point to point, he has the privilege to fish long set lines and hooks on, for Cat fish, and sturgeon. - Please refer to his license for this year. He had the same ground last year, he fishes for his Mother Alpha Terrie. -

The stations from No: 1, to 5, inclusive are all situated on the front beach of St. point, Lake Erie. - They are in what is termed the outer bay, of Long point, and St. point - Lake Erie. -

#### 2<sup>d</sup> part. -

From deep hole point, to Bob Woods point, say two miles in extent, there is no license issued for this year, - last year James Terrie had a license from Indian creek to Bob Woods point, a mile in extent - of the West portion of it, this was given to him at his own request; This station is not occupied this year, was a good fishing last year, if properly fished. . . . The whole of this space will be on lots No: 9, and No: 8, Concession A, of the township of Charlotteville. . . .

This too was occupied by Brook some time ago, because no other person applied for it. - By this act of his - he upheld the fisheries act, &c. - and assisted me very materially in doing so. . . .



Snooks gave way to James Ferris, and curtailed his limits to narrowed limits, ---

Station - No: 6. - James Ferris, occupies this station this year - Snooks held it last year, it extends now Bob Woods point, to teal pond, and this is a good fishery, the copy of the license I sent you, will give you extent of ground, I believe it is in front of lot, No: 7. - Conception A, township of Charlottesville. - - Snooks expended money means and time to clear this ground of logs and timbers. - and relinquished it this spring without a murmur, in obedience to your order for a redivision of D: point fisheries. - - -

No: 7. - ~~Wm~~ Snooks occupies this station, it is smaller, on the land, but <sup>is</sup> wider outside in the bay. - He pays \$20. a year for it, it is situated in front of lot No: 6. - Conception A, township of Charlottesville. - Snooks fished here last year. - It is known as Snooks middle bank. - - -

No: 8. - - John Jackson occupies this station this year, it is about a mile in extent, extending from Snooks west boundary to the extreme end of point de gras. - This fishery is situated in front of lot No: 5. Conception A, township of Charlottesville. - - - This ground was occupied by Snook, last year, He expended his money, and means to clear this ground. - and relinquished it this spring, without a murmur, in obedience to your redivision order. - - -

There is no fishery in front of No: 4. Conception A, township of Charlottesville. -

No: 9. - Charles Ferris, aforesaid - occupies this ground this year, this year, it is situated in front of lot No: 3. Conception A, T: of Charlottesville. - It is a good spring fishery - no person applied for it last year.

No. 10 - J. J. Hovis - Occupies this fishery this year, it was not fished on last year, - It is in front of part of lot 3, Conception A, township of Chathamville. - It is a good spring fishery. - - -

No. 11. - James Larose. - Occupied this station this spring on trial - he commenced and cleared the ground, he took out posts - an anchor - logs and timbers - & & It will be a very good spring fishery when he has got it cleared. - I hope the Department will encourage him, because the Long Point Company fishermen speak well of him. -

Except Harris, all the others left the Inner bay for the Outer beach. - Spring fishing terminated

The stations from 6 to 11, inclusive are good spring fisheries and are situated in the Inner bay, Long and S. Point, Lake Erie. -

Except James Harris - all the others left the Inner bay, last week for the outer beach fisheries. - - Spring fishing (except with hooks) has terminated there this year. -

I may here state for your information that in 1872, Wm. Snooks, occupied all the Inner bay fishing - for seine hauling between deep hole and point dumas. - - Last year - I gave a license to James Harris of a portion of it, and a very good part of it too; but because Snooks caught more fish last year, with two seines, than Harris, caught with one - Harris, who is a little selfish, tries by unfair means to injure Snooks. - - -

I made application to you to be allowed to divide the fisheries at S. Point, which you have permitted me to carry out; most satisfactory I ought to say, to all parties, as not a single person has expressed any dissatisfaction to me whatever for the way I carried out your order in doing so. -

Snooks, whom I have fined several times for Contraventions of the Fishing Act, gave up this year, for your disposal, your seine hauling grounds, upon which he had expended money time and labour, in clearing them of logs and timbers, and all this he quietly consented to, because it was your order, - He done so, without a murmur. - - -

The reason why Snooks occupied so much, and so many fisheries in the James bay, was that no other person applied for them, there was no one to fish these spring fisheries but himself, now made valuable to the extent of \$55, this year. - And by his indomitable energy, and industry as a fisherman he has opened up fisheries there, that remained dormant ever since Blacum late of Point Edwards - Lake Huron - fished them upwards of 30 years ago, and for doing which I hope he will now receive your Commendation. - - -

I hope you will never condemn any fisherman publicly, nor behind his back, nor upon any representation made by people who petition, for half of the people who sign not knowing why they done so. - -

I would like to find the man in Charlottetown, Walsingham, &c. &c, from the venerable S: McLeat, M: L: P: W. Jeffries J. P. - down to the humblest fishing hand on S: Pt who can say of himself I have never violated the fishing Act, - I can throw the first stone. -

I have no plan of S: Point fishing at present. - - The number of stations - names of remarkable points, holes, and break - in front of the S: Pt



lots, Concepcion A, given in this Communication and in my letter of the 13<sup>th</sup> inst. will be sufficient answer, I hope to your telegram. - With due respect, and obedience to all your orders. —

I have &c,

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries  
Ottawa,

John W. Kerr  
Deputy

Private,

My dear Browne,

I have just received instructions from the fishing department - Ottawa, to prosecute false books, and all other for fishing for, catching and killing pickered mackinogs, between the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April and 1<sup>st</sup> of May. - There is no such order in Council as that referred to by Mr. McKee, and never was!

Will you be pleased to note down all the names for me of all those persons you referred to, when I saw you in Chatham on Sunday the 26<sup>th</sup> day of April last, do the thing quietly, and say nothing about it, to any person until I come up. - and just consult you on the matter, I fear Mr. McKee has got into trouble, I caught all the people at Cashmere day after I saw you, Believe me Very Truly & Sincerely  
y<sup>ls</sup>

Chas. Coast  
Browne  
Chatham,

John W. Kerr

Hamilton N. B.  
21. May 1874

- onto



My dear Sir:

Will you be pleased to send me your license fee - promised to be with me on the 15. day of May - now passed.

I can issue no license until I first receive your money - and to live up to the strict letter of the Fisheries Act, you have no right whatever to continue fishing. -

Yours Truly,

John W. Kerr.

-Oswego - 21. May 1874.

Mr. Henry Robt. -

Port Maitland, Onto.

Friday. 22. May 1874. -

at the City - and M. beach - notifying fishermen that licenses for seine hauling in Bay, would expire on the Queens birth day. tried to collect some license fees, but not a cent could I get. - saw Dan: McFayne, and Men: Golder on the subject went out at 8. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. - Miles 28. H & Buggy 2.50, dinner 50

My dear Sir.

With reference to the Minister's order of the 11<sup>th</sup> instant, to discontinue employing you for the future as Fishery Guardian at St. Williams, - Turkey Point & Co., as already made known to you by me verbally. - I am further directed by the Minister to state that your engagement must positively be discontinued from the date of the Minister's order of the 11<sup>th</sup> instant, to this effect. <sup>Respectfully</sup>

Peter Bruce Esq<sup>r</sup>

St. Williams.

Walsingham P. Office.

Yours truly, yourself accordingly.

John W. H. H.

Oversee.

Sir.

19. May 1874.

I am in receipt of the letter of Mr. Edwin M. Atwood, dated Mapleton Lodge, on the Niagara River, Black Creek, P. Office, May 5, 1874. - Who asks! Is it the intention of the present administration to tax the farmers living along the Niagara River, for catching fish in the said River for their own use, by means of lines and hooks, commonly called night lines. - &c. &c. &c.

In reply, I have no hesitation in recommending the advisability of charging Mr. Atwood one dollar, per year, for fishing for pickerel &c. &c. in the manner he describes, - because every farmer who fishes there when he gets more fish than he requires, for the use of his family invariably sells them, <sup>just as they sell butter, apples and eggs.</sup> this I found to be the case this year, when I made my first visit to this part of the Niagara River. -

Now, Mr. Atwood should have told you, as a loyal subject - that he caught and had pickerel in his pots, during the close season, that in consequence of a severe accident that befell him, by the cutting of his foot with an axe, he was not prosecuted against. - I was at his house with constable George Sutton of Fort Erie, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May instant, and finding

Sir,

19. May 1874,

I am in receipt of the letter of Mr Edwin M. Atwood dated Mapleton Lodge, on the

him labouring under pain and torture from the injury I describe, I had the constable withhold the service of the summons then, for the special reasons I here assign and I candidly and in the presence of the constable, who called me into Mr Atwood's house, told him so. - - -

The constable is the witness against him, - in writing this letter he should tell you all the circumstances about his own case first, - Mr Atwood is an intelligent man as indeed all the fishermen <sup>living</sup> on the Niagara River are, he does not plead ignorance of the law, - pleads the only plea, which an intelligent man is always sure to plead - "only fishing for his own use" - - - Where there is such abundance of blue and yellow pike, the latter sells for 7d per pound, (pickeral) and where men with 50 hooks catch 49, pickeral, and with 25 hooks catch 25 pickeral, it is very small in any man, more especially a man who has transgressed the law, as Mr Atwood has done to plead what every other farmer about him, - would be ashamed of doing. - - -

The position in which I found Mr Atwood on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, writhing with the pain and agony of his foot, admonished me that his was a case just then, that did not require immediate pressing attention. - It could be over for future action. - - -

Our fishing laws, order in Council dated 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 1870. - as I then told Mr Atwood was not made to tyrannize over him nor any other man, some time when he got all right

I would have to fine him, for the offence committed, I explained to him what your orders were to me, ---

The plea Mr Atwood puts forth, is no plea at all - Every person knows that fishing season in Niagara River every spring is like the berry picking season. - When people get more than they require - they sell, and so it is with Mr Atwood. ---

I recommended therefore that no exemption be made in this case of Mr Atwood upon <sup>such</sup> flimsy excuse as he pleads. ---

I recommended that all persons who fish night hies shall pay a license, and I hope you will be pleased to issue a positive order at once to this effect: ---

The Hon. Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries,  
Ottawa,

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr

Money, = Received this 23<sup>rd</sup> of May: -  
Daniel McGwynne of 5, New: Golds & and  
Richard Seaffe 4. - -

Paid for postage stamps	50 c
" for quills	50 "
" " Ink	20. - -
Note paper & foolscap	40 - -
Telegrams	50 - -
Wrote Everingham and P. Bennett Esq	
this 25. of May 1874. -	



Sir

Fishing Officer's Office.  
"Confidential". -- Hamilton, 21. May 1874. --

I have the honor to report for your information that I received from Owen Bowers of Port Royal a confidential letter this day, furnishing me with the names of persons who fished for, caught and killed and had in their possession pickers during close season at Big Creek, Lake Erie - township of Walsingham, South Riding of Norfolk. - to wit; between the 15. of April last, and the 1<sup>st</sup> of May instant, -- I submit the list herewith for your information. -- My reference to my reports, dated 4. of May 1871. - Owen Bowers acted for me in a similar capacity. - Complaining of himself then, as he does now, with this exception that young Hanson caught him this time in the act, -

Mr Bowers in a letter addressed to me 1<sup>st</sup> of May - pleaded guilty to the charge and says: "Please be quiet and I will give you an immense amount of information, so that all parties can be brought to justice. You will please not mention to any one that I have written to you. - If you would call or send word to me, I could meet you at the Port. -

Mr Hanson, - referred to as fishing guardian is a man who lives at Port Royal. - On the 4<sup>th</sup> of April - I asked this man represented to me as a man of reliance, to warn all persons about close season, and if any person or persons violated this law, to report to me. His son Joseph caught Owen Bowers, here the result with this list of offenders. --

These being cases for your contemplation. - I submit the same, and await your instructions before I commence

prosecuting the persons herein charged. -  
 Hon: Minister of Marine and Fisheries, I have the  
 Ottawa, John W. Kerr,  
 Quebec.

"Private."

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter contain-  
 ing all the valuable information it does. - I have sent  
 the names to the Minister, at Ottawa, and asked for  
 instructions to prosecute. - - If you can, please give  
 me the date of the offence committed against each  
 person, - against yourself I have already got - Peter  
 is no more. -

A meeting of Port Royal job law breakers I  
 heard was held at John A. Stearns, on the evening  
 of the 20, at which I heard Simon Plaque Mabe  
 was Head Centre, were you present - and what  
 was the meeting held for - Mabe I heard was  
 circulating that I and Peter were dismissed. -  
 Peter has been, but I heard nothing about my-  
 self, - The fact is, I don't expect anything of  
 the kind from present Administration. -

Please write me again, as you have  
 promised to. - - I shall see you and Mr  
 Spencer, when I come up, so that we may  
 talk over matters privately, and arrange  
 every thing in a manner to insure success. - Be-  
 fore business is issued or a move made,

Believe me very truly Yrs.

Allen Brown Esq  
 Port Royal  
 Walsingham,

John W. Kerr  
 Hamilton - Ont.

24. May 1874,

My dear Sir,

Great complaints are being daily made against you - your card sent to Mr James Miller, I received from Sheriff Woodruff - I have applied to the Department and recommended them to restore your Seine to you. - Your fine \$2, please send me immediately. - - -

You will have to pay your dollars for your Seine hauling ground, and five dollars for your boat license, for outside gill net fishing. - let me hear from you immediately. - -

Yrs Truly,

John W Kerr,

Deputy,

Hamilton, Onto.

25. May 1874,

Mr Peter Bath, -  
Port Dalhousie, -

Habe, -

I will be shortly at leisure to attend to your own complaints. -

Yrs Truly,

John W Kerr

Wednesday, - 27. May 1874,  
at St. Bridge, Lincolnton - and Niagara -  
Harry Shepard paid his license fee for 1874.  
David Perbor - paid \$5. for last season and this  
went out at 8. a. m. came in at 9. p. m. -  
Miles 62. - Railway fare 1.40, dinner 45. -  
Tea and bed 50. - 144 By from Bridge to  
Niagara 3. -

\$5.35

Sir,

29. May 1874.

I have the honor to send you herewith cheque No. 41. for the sum of fifteen dollars; this amount you will be pleased to apply as follows: -

1. Henry Sheppard - for License to fish in the Niagara River, between Queenston, and the Ferry at Niagara, for this current year, the License to be the same as last season. -  $\begin{matrix} \$, & 10. & 00. \end{matrix}$

2. David Dorris - License for to fish a Machine on Station No. 3 - at Queenston - License fee for years 1873 - and 1874, is herewith. -  $\begin{matrix} 5. & 00. \end{matrix}$

Total - \$ 15.00

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa,

I Have the

Pleasure to

Oversee.

Sir,

29. May 1874. -

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank Cheque No. 40. - for the sum of three dollars,  $\begin{matrix} 25 \\ 100 \end{matrix}$ ¢ - "Fines" as per memorandum on back of return. - for the year ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December last 1873 - herewith also. - - -

The Minister

H. H. H.

Ottawa,

I Have the

Pleasure to

Oversee.



W. J. Whitcher,  
 Fisheries department. — Just home from  
 Ottawa, — Niagara — fishermen  
 had one week seining  
 for white fish only. — May they  
 continue seining on after the 30, see section 9. — So  
 far it is the worst season ever they had. —  
 Hamilton — John W. Kerr  
 28. May 1874. —

Thursday - 28. May 1874. —  
 at Niagara — up to see Frobbs at the Junc. Bolton  
 at the Junc. — thence to St. Catharines, and  
 home. Went out at 5. a.m., came in at 4.30.  
 p.m. — Miles 56. — Stage  $\frac{7}{5}$ , breakfast  $\frac{7}{5}$ ,  
 dinner  $\frac{4}{5}$ , Railway fare \$1.10¢.

## Return of fines - for year 1873. - - -

J. W. Kerr	1, Jacob Berdan -	paid 1.00	fine	paid.
	2, Ferdinand Kontze -	1.00,	"	"
	3, Levi Young -	1.00,	"	"
	4, John Van-Black -	1.00,	"	"
	5, David Whickham -	1.00,	"	"
	6, Loran Mac-Donald -	1.00	"	"
	7, George Young -	1.00	"	"
	8, Levi Millard -	1.00	"	"
	9, James Stone -	1.00,	"	"
	10, Charles Young -	1.00,	"	"
	11, George Birney -	1.00,	"	"
	12, Edward Burrows -	1.00,	"	"
	13, J. W. Adams -	1.00	"	"
	14, James Adams -	" - 25,	"	"
	15, John Adams -	" - 25,	"	"
J. W. Kerr	16, - James Bantwell -	1.00,	"	"
	17, - John Kenahan -	1.00,	not paid,	-
	18, Thomas Smalley -	1.00	not paid,	
	19, Gal <sup>K</sup> Gibbons -	1.00	paid,	-
Jos. Woodruff	20, - Peter Bath -	2.00	paid,	-
P. H. Bates	21, Fred <sup>K</sup> M. Starvey,	10.00	not paid,	-
"	22, - Edwin Steenwood -	10.00	not paid,	-
Peter Price	23, W <sup>W</sup> Snook -	10.00 - 2.00	paid,	-
	24, August Schumacher,	5.00. 1.00,	paid,	-
	25, W <sup>W</sup> Smith -	1.00,	paid,	-
	26, Elias Smith -	1.00,	paid,	-
	27, David Bouke -	1.00	paid,	-
J. W. Kerr	28, John Green -	30.00 - Cost 3.30	paid,	-
"	29, John Baker -	30.00. Cost 3.30	"	-
"	30, W <sup>W</sup> Campbell -	30.00, Cost 3.30,	"	-
"	31, Mich <sup>e</sup> Gayan -	1.00 Cost 1.68	pd,	
"	32, Edward McKeeney -	1.00 - 1.68,	not pd,	
"	33, - Rob <sup>t</sup> Johnston -	1.00 - 1.68,	paid,	-
"	34, - Isaac Atkinson -	50.00 Cost 20.00	pd,	
"	35, R. L. White for Parson Bros: - - -	50.00 " 10.00	pd,	

Continued . . . .

36. . .	James M. Williams	10.00, Cost 25 <sup>#</sup> <u>only paid</u> .
	Charles Williams -	
Pete Bee 37,	Wm Snook,	15.00 - Cost 3.50 <sup>#</sup> paid,
" 38,	Dan McJuryne,	1.00 - Cost 6.00, --
" 39,	James Rolf,	1.00 -- " Don't know
" 40,	Zachariah Corey. -	1.00 " "
" 41,	Sam'l Corey. -	1.00 " "

John W. Kerr

Hamilton, Ont.

29. May 1874. . .

Fishing Oversee,  
for the District of Hamilton.

"Memorandum" of Money. . . Staff prices now  
sent you herewith.

1. Pete Bath. -	1.00,
2. Wm Snook. -	7.50,
3. J. W. Adams. -	50.
4. James Adams. -	12 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
5. John Adams. -	12 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Total, \$ 9.25 <sup>4</sup> .	

Hamilton. . Ont.

29. May 1874. . .

John W. Kerr

Oversee.

Sat, 30, May 1874.

at B. Beach - gave notice about cir-  
cular issued - respecting the W. fish Seining -  
had Dan McJuryne make a haul, -  
not many fish - went with Col<sup>d</sup>, Irving,  
Willie - MacEder, John Riddle and Bob,  
McJuryne - to make arrangements to  
fence up Col. McJuryne's part of Bch.  
Went out at 4.30, p.m. came in at  
10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> p.m. - miles 20. spent \$ 1.00. -

2.00

Sir,

1. June 1874.

I have the honor to apply to you for Special fishing licenses, - for the current season, as follows: - Copies herewith. -

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Henry Sheppard - Queenston - paid -  | \$ 10.00, |
| 2. Thomas Elliott - Niagara - Not paid, | 10.00.    |
| 3. John Bolton - do. do. -              | 10.00.    |
| 4. James Cantwell - do. do. -           | 10.00,    |
| 5. Peter Huth - Port Dalhousie - do. -  | 5.00.     |
| 6. Patrick Stand - Saltfleet - do. -    | 10.00.    |

License for Gill Nets. - -

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| 7. Messrs. John and Charles Bolton, Not paid,<br>3,000 yards - S. V. wh; f. and pickle,     | \$ 5.00, |
| 8. John Stand - 3,000 yards. - do. do. - Not paid,  | 5.00.    |
| 9. Messrs. Charles and Alfred Ball - Not paid,<br>3,000 yards S. V. wh; f. and pickled,     | 5.00.    |
| 10. James Cantwell, S. V. - wh; f. and pickled,<br>3,000 yards, - Not paid.                 | 5.00.    |
| 11. Peter Huth, - Port Dalhousie - Not paid.<br>2,000, yds, wh. f. S. V. pickled & herring. | 5.00,    |

They are all old fishermen - I have been obliged to give them time - for to pay their license fee. - -

I Have &c.

Hon: Minister,

&c. &c. &c.

Albion,

John W. Kerr

Oversee.



Sir,

1<sup>st</sup> June 1874,

I am in receipt of your letter of 26<sup>th</sup> inst. in which you are pleased to say: "I am to enquire if the similar engagements of Messrs Leary and Dennis were renewed since the end of last year." -- "It being the intention of the Minister to establish a separate District in the County of Norfolk, and to appoint a Resident Fishing Officer, the department does not think it necessary to renew any of these temporary engagements, which were made merely to assist you in guarding the fisheries along that part of Lake Erie - outside of your original limits."

In reply, I have the honor to report for your information - that after I had a conversation with Mr. Whitaker - the Commissioner - on 24<sup>th</sup> day of December last - Mr. Wm. Leary, was continued on during this season at the reduced salary of fifty dollars per year. -- And Mr. John Dennis, at twenty dollars - the same salary he had last year. --

I believe the Department is bound in all honor to carry out the arrangement - because it is a well known fact, they keep away the Americans, who frequented the fisheries around Long Point, Lake Erie; - thereby making the fisheries the more valuable to our <sup>own</sup> fishermen on the main land at ~~the~~ point. --

They prevent contravention of the Fisheries Act. -

Hon. Minister  
H. H. H.  
O'Meara,

I Have &c.  
John W. Kerr  
S.O.

My dear Sir,

1. June 1874,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 30, ultimo, you must have a little patience...

I laid the case of Owen Bowyer's and about twenty others complained of, before the Hon. Magistrate, H. H., at Ottawa, and whenever I am instructed to prosecute the parties I shall do so, you must not therefore interfere any further in the case, until I am instructed by the Govt, when you may rely upon me, I shall at once come up. -

Yours truly,  
John W. Kerr  
J. O.

Mr. Wm. Hanson,  
Port Royal. -

My dear Sir,

1. June 1874,

I am just in receipt of your letter of the 29, ultimo. - I was made aware of your appointment, by the Department at Ottawa, some time ago, and requested to afford you every information you may require for the active discharge of your duties. - This I will be most happy to do at all times. - In a few days I will give you all the information you now require, and will and have a talk about the fisheries, and matters appertaining to the fisheries generally. -

Henry Griffith Esq.  
J. O.  
Oranoutford,

Very truly Yours,  
John W. Kerr  
J. O.

Mr Henry Rops. -  
Fisherman -  
Port Maitland.

My dear Sir,

Your promise faithfully  
to send me your license fee,  
on the 15. of May last. If it  
is not now sent to me at once, I shall be obliged  
to stop your fishing. - The fishing department  
is very particular, and I have to be equally so.  
In fact I am not allowed any more to issue  
licenses until the money is first paid in  
by you, while the fact is, you have fished  
all the time. - Send your money to me on  
receipt of this. -

Hamilton, Onto.

1. June 1874.

Yours truly,

Johill W. S. S.  
J. S. S.

2. June 1874,

My dear Sir,

I send you three gill  
nets to you - please sign and  
send me back the receipt herewith  
and oblige  
J/S

Johill W. S. S.  
J. S. S.

Mr Rich A. Sinner,  
Cayuga.

Postage 9¢

My dear Sir,

Your letter with 12 dollars is just received. I cannot recommend any license to be issued to you for station No: 2, because when the machine is in the water there - it hinders the fishing in No: 1, 2, and 3, Derrers - therefore my reasons for not doing so.

You will have to stop move the machine on to some other lot, so as to stop all unpleasantness there in future, because the Minister will not allow any more quarrelling between you. - Write me at once and name the lot where you desire to put this second machine, and I will at once apply to the department, and get up your license for you. -

Yr Truly  
John Madenworth,  
Queenston,

Yr Truly  
John Madenworth,  
Queenston,  
Hamilton, Ont.

2 June 1874.

Mailed - Chester A. Harris. -  
" - Messrs Wm. Kell & James Lowe,  
" - Edward Macpherson. -  
" and, - Thomas Purdy. their li-  
censes - this 2<sup>d</sup> of June 1874. -

Yr Truly  
John Madenworth,  
Queenston.

Postages 16¢ - Telegrams 50¢.



My dear Sir -

I am in receipt of yours of the 27<sup>th</sup> ultimo, - if you want to fish your seine, you will have to send me five dollars, when I will apply for a license for you. - send me the number of the lot, and the name of the Concession, where the Pew lives, do this immediately. - No person can fish without a license.

Yrs truly

Mr J. M. Culp,  
Candassville,  
Louisiana P. Office -  
Bay, Illinois. -

John W. Kerr,  
J. Culp,  
2. June 1874.

Sir,

4. June 1874.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank cheque \$50.48, for the sum of \$60. - - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for the license fee of the Long Point Company's fisheries in and around Long point in Lake Erie for this current year.

The Hon;  
Minister of  
Ottawa,

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr,  
Ottawa

## Return of fines for Year 1872.

30 Apr. 1872. Robert Jackson - George Stelmer, Wm. Stelmer, Alonzo Stelmer, and Charles Smith - for fishing for, catching, and killing pickeral and hogs in close season. - on 14, and 19 Apr. Jackson was afraid to prosecute. - -

John W. Kerr - John Smith, - fishing 1.00. 1.65 Costs paid  
2. June 1872, James Ryan, - on 1.00. 1.65 " - James  
" " Edward Ryan, - do. 1.00. 1.65 " - Cahill  
" " James Sharp, - do. 1.00. 1.65 " - Espe

S. McNeil, - Daniel Gwynne - Staving in his possession a quantity  
6. July 1872, of White fish illegally caught. - - - The were  
seized by Constable Samuel McNeil who report-  
ed the matter to me. - - per Sub Sec: 2. of Sec: 11,

John W. Kerr, Albert Fox - Dundas - allowing him to  
sheep skin and glue establishment to enter creek,  
fined \$1, and \$4 dollars, Costs paid to Jas. Cahill  
Espe J. P. Hamilton. -

John W. Kerr, Goddard Hoy, allowing Coal, Sulfuric  
25. July 1872 Acid, &c, to enter Dundas Creek. - fined \$1 and  
\$4 dollars, Costs. - paid to James Cahill Espe  
J. P. Hamilton. -

Dan Milloy. Sam Irvine. - allowing saw dust into

Tuesday, 9. June 1874. -  
 at Stratford - to see Henry Griffith  
 regarding fishways in Smiths Creek  
 and the Grand River. - had a long  
 conversation with him on the subject -  
 went out at 8 a.m. came in at  
 6.30 p.m. miles 60, Railway fare  
 2.10. - dinner 40¢. R.m. Car 5¢ 14¢ B 1.50  
 Mr Griffith introduced me to the M. J.  
 Mr Patterson - who received me very  
 cordially. -

Thursday, 11. of June 1874. -  
 at Toronto, and the Island - Mr P. Gray paid  
 me 30¢ license fee - for his fishing privileges, went  
 out at 8 a.m. explained to him and George  
 Durnan the circular of 27<sup>th</sup> of May already com-  
 municated to them by letter - saw John Ward.  
 Durnan had no money, came in at 8 p.m.  
 miles about 46. Ry fare 1.30 + Boat hire 1.  
 44 B 1.50. dinner, tea and bed 75. - - -

Wednesday, 12, June 1874.  
 at Toronto, P. credit, and home, went out  
 at 7.30 a.m. came in at 3.30 p.m. met  
 young Haven - Sam Wilmots assistant at  
 Toronto - with Salmon pay - gave a lot to  
 the Shaw Station Master of Toronto - to  
 deposit below the river - took a Car  
 on to Hamilton put them in the pond  
 of Court House square - Breakfast  
 dinner 1.00. Ry fare 1.30. - Boat 25¢,  
 miles 46.

Sir,

10. June 1874.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank cheque No. 57, for thirty dollars; Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows; for this current year. - - -

1. Peter Bath, of Port Dalhousie - the copies of licenses (2) sent you - per application of the 1<sup>st</sup> day of June instant. - - - \$ 10.00.
2. Mr. Henry Robt, of Port Maitland in the bounty of Monck. - License to fee for the year - see copy of license herewith. - - - 15.00.
3. George Marks - Granchuanus bay Boat License to fish 2,000 yards of S. Trout, and Wh. fish gill nets in Lake Ontario as per copy of License herewith. - - - 5.00

Total, \$ 30.00

Will you be pleased to let me have original licenses as soon as convenient,

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr  
Deputy,

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa,

Saturday 13. June 1874. -

At B. beach, found John Laaffe hauling, thence to G. St. boys - went out at 6. p. m. came in 12.30. m. m. Miles 24, 148 By \$ 2.00. - to see that the law was properly observed. - C. J. K #1.



"Immediate". -

10. June 1874. -

Sir,

I have the honor to report for your information - that this morning - Mr. John Davis - fish dealer - here - complained against Messrs. Smith and Daughy - fishermen - Port Frank, Lake Huron - which is situated near Widdes station of the P. I. Railway. - "For fishing for, catching and killing small wh. fish, and for selling the same - the fish were evidently caught with an illegal seine."

Seven of those <sup>small wh.</sup> fish weighed exactly three pounds, averaging six ounces each. - This was the first barrel of wh. fish, Mr. D. received from there. - I am informed all the seines fished in Lake Huron, near Port Frank are illegal, - not being made in conformity with your circular of 27, of May 1874. -

About three years ago, I made a special report upon the destruction of small wh. fish, carried on every year about this time, in this same locality. -

If authorized, I can effectually stop this to the satisfaction of the Department. -



Sir,

13. June 1874.

I have the honor to remit Bank cheque \$30.60, for thirty five dollars. - This amount you will be pleased to apply as follows; for this current year. - - -

1. Mr. P. Gray - for License in Toronto bay, Lake Ontario, already received - and delivered to him - and now paid for. \$10.00.
  2. Messrs Ward, Gray and Durnan - for License of the Fisheries, - Toronto Island, Lake Ontario. - License for Gray and Ward - to be the same for the Island fisheries - as last year, this amount is paid by Mr. P. Gray, herewith. - - - \$20.00.
  3. Col. Wm. McPherson - License fee, for Station \$14 - on B. Beach, in L. Ontario, License to be the same as last season amount for same herewith. - - - \$5.00
- Total. \$35.00

Hon: Minister,  
He. He. He.  
Ottawa,

I. Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
J. Macfarlane

P.S. - Mr George Durnan has to pay yet,  
John W. Kerr  
P.O.

My dear Sir,

Your note of the 10<sup>th</sup> instant, has been duly received by me. - You can have a license by paying to the department eight dollars. - I have to send the money down just before I can get up the original license for you. - Salisbury Wright, can then fish with you. - George Planks - sent me five dollars a short time ago, on account of license but he will have to pay five dollars more. - please let me know when you send me the eight dollars - if John Fisher has commenced to seine haul yet, and if his seine is a two inch mesh, he cannot fish for white fish at all. - please tell him so immediately. - - - send me your money at once.

I have applied for Planks, and Mansfield's licenses, and expect them daily. -

Yrs &c

In Wm. McQuest,

Franchmans Bay. -  
Dunbarton P. O. -

John Wright  
P. O.

13. June 1874.

Wednesday, 17. June 1874:

at B. beach, measured H. Gitch's seine all right. - Ben: Golds - Centre 3 inch extension - ordered it to be taken out - Dan: McFoyne's all right. - Jack: Baalffs - 3½ inch Centre ordered out - Mortimer: Borey - Centre a small 4 inch - ordered to be changed as soon as convenient - Wm. Podkins - cannot fish - no man at all went out at 8. a. m. - came in at 5. p. m. Miles 30, H. & B. 2.50. dinner 50¢ Horse feed 25¢ - John Connor and D. A. Byson have been fishing - wh: fish gill nets, and a small seine - License to be paid this week, Dan McFoyne - paid me \$4. -



My dear Sir,

Hamilton, Onto.

Yours of the 6<sup>th</sup> inst., was duly received. Please call on those persons who are fishing without a license, and read for them the enclosed order in Council on the subject. Levi Young must pay license for his seine forthwith. At what place is he fishing? --

Just recently! a local Gauger, has been appointed for the Counties of Norfolk, and Hal-  
dmand; in the person of J. A. Backhouse of St. Williams. -- I have fallen back on my original District, I, however still retain the County of Regie - my salary is not affected in any way. --

With regard to the Conclusion arrived at by the Department respecting the ownership of property, at Port Bruce, in front of the fisheries there - will write you in a few days fully on this subject; --

Please tell Adams to send me at once the balance of his license fee. -- Is any person seine hauling west of Pt Bruce, before you get to Pt Stanley? Please write me again soon. If those people you refer to don't pay at once - they will have to be fined. --

Yrs Very truly

John W. Kerr

Gauger

13. June 1874.

Capt<sup>m</sup>  
Thomas Thompson,  
Port Bruce.

My dear Sir,

I received from the Department of Marine and Fisheries - Ottawa - on the 5<sup>th</sup> instant, a letter which reads as follows;

("copy.")

Sir, -

With further reference to my letter of 26<sup>th</sup> ultimo, and to your answer of the 1<sup>st</sup> instant, relative to the engagement of Messrs. Leary and Dennis, as local fishing guardians at Long Point, I am to instruct you to carry out your orders;

These men will be paid off to 30, instant. -  
John W. Kerr Esq.  
Hamilton. -

I have &c.

(Signed) W. J. Whitcher,

Such is life! as in this instance. - I shall return you and Mr. Dennis - for a half years salary - ending 30. day of June; when your connection with the fisheries of Canada will cease altogether. - Be pleased to apprise Mr. John Dennis to the same effect, will write you again in a few days - Continue to do your duty up to 30<sup>th</sup> instant. - Have you gone and seen the kind of seines fished by Richard Johnson, James Brockell, or any other person fishing for white fish at or near the New Cut, if not - please do so, measure the centres and other meshes and report to me, I have a good and substantial reason for asking you to do this! - Wait and see them make a haul each, so as to establish the kind of fish, they each of them catch,

Wm. H. Leary,  
Steward of  
Long Point.

Yrs Sincerely,  
John W. Kerr. - over  
13. June 1874.

Sir,

13. June 1874,

In reply to your Circular letter of the 16<sup>th</sup>. instant, directing me to send in a return of any nets or other fishing materials seized by you, since your appointment as Fishery Officer which are still retained in your custody?"

I have the honor most respectfully to report that the following are the only nets and fishing materials in my possession at this present time. - -

1. One boat, seized on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of Nov. 1872, confiscated, and given to Mr. W. Hartick, Guardian at Duffins Creek, for safe keeping, some malicious person cut the stem out of her with an axe, destroying and making her useless. - - -

2. - One small seine, seized by me and confiscated on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 1873, - the property of Peter Bath, for contravention of the Fisheries Act, - please see my report of 19. of May last. - - -

3. - Four pieces of pike gill nets seized by me for contravention of the Fisheries Act, committed in O. Bay - last spring - the owners not known, say: about 400 yards in all. -

The Hon:

The Minister  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa,

I Have &amp;c

John W. Starr  
J. W.

Sir,

20. June 1874.

I have the honor to draw your attention to the report I made on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 1873 - respecting innumerable quantities of a certain small fish, supposed at the time to be Moon-eyes - I saw dead, dying, and living the previous day, in Lake Ontario at Toronto Island. -- It appears now, competent judges declare these fish to be Shad - and I can state from my own personal knowledge and the truthful assertions of many fishermen that millions of this fish inhabit Lake Ontario, and I heard were placed there a few years ago, in their infant state, by Mr Seth Green - the great fish breeder of Saratoga - State of New York. -

At Niagara - this season - large quantities were caught, and sold to a fish dealer for a few pieces, who disposed of them to a House in St. Catharines. --

My sole object in writing you is, that you will please cause an order in Council to be passed and issued for their protection, giving them a place in the Fisheries Act amongst our other fishes. -- Public interest is greatly drawn this season towards this class of fish. -- They are at present almost as numerous as Herring and Co's in that portion of Lake Ontario comprised within my district, and are increased in size beyond what they were, when I first saw them. --

My letter of 10. June 1873. - will have told you what I witnessed at that time. --

Not knowing till very recently - that Mr Seth Green - had deposited any young shad in Lake Ont., I now feel no small pride at the discovery I made more than a year ago, when I brought the <sup>matter of a</sup> fish then unknown to me first under the notice of the Department. -

Yours faithfully,  
Hon. Minister,

I Have &c. Schellberg



Sir,

20. June 1874.

I have the honor to report for your information that young Salmon were caught this season, so far as I have been able to learn at the following places, and by the un-  
dermentioned persons. - - -

1. Mr. George Dorman - caught a Salmon in Toronto Bay, near the outlet accidentally, while fishing for other fish - he did not liberate it, please refer to sub section 4 of section 7. of the fisheries act. - - -

2. Mr. Peter Bath, caught two Salmon in Lake Ontario, near the mouth of the Well-  
land Canal - he did not liberate them. -  
"Caught accidentally". - - -

3. - Abram H. Goble, caught a Salmon in Lake Ontario, near the four mile creek ac-  
cidentally - when fishing for White fish, he did not liberate it. -

4. James Lanthrell caught a Salmon ac-  
cidentally in Lake Ontario, near the four mile  
Creek, while fishing for White fish - he  
liberated the fish. -

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
The Minister  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr  
T.O.

Sir,

18. June 1874.

I have the honor to report for your information that on the 15. of May last, I issued a written order to the fishermen of St. Point &c. - Lake Erie - forbidding them to fish for White fish with seines, between the 30. of May and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August, viz Section 9, of the Act. This order was read to each fisherman there by Mr. Peter Price, late Guardian there. . . .

On receipt of your Circular dated 27. of May last, suspending Wh. fish close season in June and July - I sent Copy of same to Mr. Brooks fisherman at St. Point - for his information, and that of his colleagues there, occupying seine hauling fishing grounds. - I also apprised Mr. West, Secy. the Guardian on Long point, of the Ministers will and pleasure in this respect, and this was communicated to each seine hauling fisherman there. . . .

Preparations being commenced to carry out the Circular order, when J. A. Backhouse fishery Inspector - St. Williams went on St. Point and at the solicitation of some of the fishermen there - the proper Centres sanctioned by you in this Circular were taken out of the seines and common centres of illegal bags were permitted to be put in again, and with which all the licensed fishermen at St. Pt. Lake Erie, are at this present time fishing for, catching, and killing Wh. fish, in contravention of the Fisheries Act, with the sanction and the connivance of the said J. A. Backhouse and Mr. Williams, who is represented as being appointed by Backhouse - it is said to look after the fisheries there. . . .

Small white fish are caught and it is said are also thrown upon the point

beach at V. point at this present time. ---

My informants in this matter is Wm  
Snook and Wm Leary; James Larose will  
 prove the small wh. fish being shown on the  
 front beach of Lake Erie at V. point, I lay  
 this matter before you with due respect, as  
 personally communicated to me here by  
Snook and Leary. -

Hon. Minister  
 &c. &c. &c.

O. Mearns

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr

P. O.

Monday, 22, June 1874,  
 at Hamilton. John Davis informed me that  
 young White fish were being caught at the Beach  
 in Lake Ontario, that Paddy Stands wife told  
 him that morning, that a load was peddled  
 through Saltfleet, the previous week, run  
 down to the beach, made the enquiry, and  
 ascertained that the same was too true  
 went out at 8. a. m., came in at 4.30.  
 a. m., Miles 26. - Sent message to McNair  
 by Detective Roufseaux, H. and Maydon  
 2.50. dinner for self and Edward 75¢. ---

Sir,

22. June 1874.

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank cheque No. 177, for the sum of Ten dollars - this is the same amount referred to, in my report of the 20<sup>th</sup> instant. -

Will you be pleased to apply the same as follows:

1. John Stand, half fine, - already rep <sup>d</sup>	\$ 2 1.50.
2. Alfred Ball - do, do. -	1.50.
3. - Wm. Engledew. - do - do -	1.50.
4. - Thomas Loeis, - do. - do. -	1.50.
5. - John Bolton - do. - do. -	1.50.

The proceeds of fish seized and Confiscated. - \$ 2.50

Total - \$ 10.00

I paid constable fees and other expenses out of the other half of the fines.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Yours, Minister

H. H. H.

Ottawa,

I have the

John W. Kerr

D. A.

Postage 50 c  
Stationery \$ 1. - -  
Telegram 1.50



Sir,

22, June 1874,

I have the honor to send you  
Bank cheque No: 76 - for seventy six dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this  
amount for the current year as follows: -

1. Mr Thomas Elliott - License - for Seine haul-  
ing ground at Niagara. - \$10.00.

2. Abram St. John, do, do, at  
the four mile creek. - \$10.00.

3. James Cartmell, do, do, do - 10.00.

4. John Bolton, do, do, do.  
at the two mile creek. - \$10.00.

Licenses applied for on the 1<sup>st</sup> of  
June by me. - -

5. John Gaffs - License for Seine hauling  
at B. beach - in Lake Ontario, - \$10.00.

6. - Ben. Golds, - do, - do - \$7.00.

7. - Dan. McFurze, - do, - do - \$4.00.

8. William Wardell, License to fish at  
Sandusky - township of Walpole, in  
Lake Ontario. - \$5.00.

9. John Madenorth - License to fish  
in Niagara River at Queenston  
Height. - - 10.00.

\$76.00

Respectfully Submitted,

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 16<sup>th</sup> is received - please cash the enclosed Post Office Order - for ten dollars - and hand the same to Stanley Munroe from me -

The order is drawn in your <sup>own</sup> favour. - How are the Trout?

Can you give me 200 young fish, at what price. - Why did you not write me a long letter. - please write me soon,

J. A. Lacey Esq  
Stillburgh,  
Onto., -

Yours Sincerely  
John W. Kerr

J. A.  
Hamilton, Onto.,  
22. June 1874, -

Tuesday, 23. June 1874, ---

at B. beach - met Townsend Van Wagner and John Van Wagner - at the intersection of Barton Street with Stoney Creek Road to the beach, this morning at 3.40, a.m. - John, had about 100 small wh. fish - he stated he got from Mort. Corey, for whom he fished, as his hand share - Townsend had some in a Basket - he got from Jonathan Corey. - went on the beach - seized a quantity of small wh. fish - found in Mort. Corey's wagon, which he acknowledged were his thence to Canal - and back again found Mort. Golds - loading up - took a box from him. - thence to Dan. McFay's Ice house, got a quantity there - thence to Jack Baffes and D. H. Hitch - they had no small wh. fish see my report thereon. - Went out at 3. a. m. Came in at 10. a. m. Mile 34 - Charly J. Kerr with me. - A. & B. 2.50. B. - 50. C. & K. 1.50.

Sir.

23. June 1874,

I have the honor to report for your information that this morning at 3.40, a.m., I arrived on B. Beach - and between that hour, and 5. a.m., I seized about 1000 young white fish, caught by Mortimer Corey, Ben. Halls, and Dan McFoyne -

The fish were caught with good rich mesh seine. Halls and Corey were loaded up and ready to start to the country, when I pounced upon them. McFoyne had his fish in the Ice House. - I hauled the fish I seized, over to Mr. Fred<sup>4</sup>/<sub>3</sub> Curtis - fish dealer - Hamilton, to be disposed of, for the benefit of the Department.

McFoyne's was the first he caught this season. -

The sale of these small young white fish is very bad. - - -

All this could be avoided by careful seining on the part of the fishermen themselves who instead of permitting their seines to remain for ~~40~~ 15 or 20 minutes in the water, when about ten yards from shore, so as to allow all small fish to escape. - become breaklefs and hauling in rapidly, with such language applied by each fisherman to the seine, they are hauling "as up with her" "out with her" "hurrah boys" <sup>for no small wh. fish can escape in</sup> ~~gotta be~~ good care that not a single fish, small or large, young or old shall escape, for the moment they touch the shore they instantly die. - - -

Examples will have to be made both of the proprietors and the men employed under them for to haul. - I cannot permit such destruction of fish to continue one minute longer.

Ben. Halls, who was the main man to get up the petition, sent Mr.



Erving, M. P., for the Department to suspend the  
 fishing for wh. fish during the month of June and  
 July was the first move to disregard your Circular  
 and sub section 9, of Section 13, of the Fisheries  
 Act. —

To prove to you, that careful fishing  
 can be carried on at B. beach, in Lake Ontario  
 I will here mention to you, that John Saaffe, and  
 David Fitch, who fished there last night caught  
 no small white fish. —

I have issued an order to those week-  
 long fishermen, who have acted so, to fish  
 no more until the Minister's decision is just  
 obtained by me on this matter. —

Yours, sincerely

H. F. F.  
 O. Maudslayi,

I have &c  
 John W. Kerr  
 D. O.

Sir,

25. June 1874.

I am in receipt of your letter of the 20,  
 instant, acknowledging my letter of 18. instant. —

My only object in reporting the matter at all,  
 was that the department would instantly stop  
 the fishing of these illegal series. —

As I had no other motive in view I  
 never for a moment thought of taking the  
 affidavit you now referred to. — The  
 fact is - Brook who came here to see  
 John D. Mackenzie Esq. the Secretary of  
 the Long Point Company, and give him some  
 info<sup>n</sup> he required, of the Light fisheries, told  
 the matter to Mr Mackenzie, and myself,  
 and in talking afterwards about some re-  
 marks Brook made at the time - Mr  
 Mack - and I, came to the conclusion, that  
 I should write to the department, that



I must candidly Confess to you it was foreign to my mind to do so, in the first place.---

The whole thing is strictly correct. -

I do not think it would be prudent to communicate Mr Snook's name to J. A. B. - Esq<sup>r</sup> the L.-A. at St<sup>r</sup> Williams, I have never divulged except to Mr<sup>r</sup> Whitcher and the Department the sources from which I received my private information. - - In this instance Snook cautioned us not to do so - Remark<sup>#</sup>ing at the same time when he made 200. out of the transaction, he would report the matter to you himself? - -

In your P.-S: you are pleased to say. &c. &c. &c. &c. &c.

My explanation to this is, that being on I. pt<sup>y</sup> myself, on the 14. and 15 of May last, I gave orders verbally to the fishermen to put in proper 4 inch centres, extension measure. - White fish being then daily expected on the early run. - also with respect to section 9. on wh<sup>l</sup> fish being prohibited in June and July, and sub see: 9. of section 13. of the fisheries act. -

On the afternoon, of the 15. May, being at Pt<sup>r</sup> Roman, where Peter Price met me, and prosecuted John Anderson, see my report of the 19. of May last, hearing from Mr Price that he had not then delivered all the beeing I had previously sent him for the fishermen at B. pt<sup>y</sup>, I gave him in writing the orders. - I had previously given the Fishermen myself at I. pt<sup>y</sup> verbally. - - -

On the 16. after I fired Webb<sup>r</sup> Hall, and James Lowe - at Pt<sup>r</sup> House upon complaint of Mr Peter Price - he took leave to B. pt<sup>y</sup> on his way home, made known the

Sir,

26 June 1874.

I am in receipt of yours of the 23<sup>rd</sup> instant, relative to the 1000 fish gill nets seized by me at Brantford,  $\frac{1}{2}$  of an inch, and  $\frac{1}{8}$ , and  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch, under the regulated size. -- My object in suggesting the restoration of the same arose out of the fact, that these nets are the property of fishermen resident in the town of Niagara, at Brant and Br. beach -- and were fished beyond the River in American waters.

The owners of these nets are our own native licensed fishermen. -- The mistake occurred in knitting. -- and I believe it was not intentional on the part of any single fisherman amongst them, to get up these nets, nor any portion of the  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch extension measure. --

The thing is, as I say; The fact is, and has been so for years -- great Competition exists in Niagara, each year, about this gill net fishing in American waters. -- The fishermen plead ignorant of the law. -- but I plea with you, for them -- that because of the poverty of the Defendants the penalty imposed would be oppressive, a discretionary power may be exercised. It was not in my power to use any discretion in these cases whatever, beyond leaving the nets still in their proper subject to the Ministry decision, -- because your Circular of 27 May tells me without an alternative that my duty is imperative. -- They did fish a portion of the same nets these last year. -- But I did not measure them. -- They say now they will never offend any more, if the nets mostly worn out are restored to them, when they will be renewed to the legal size. -- None of these gill

net fishermen have yet paid their license fee because they were not in funds to do so, Licenses applied for. - - -

You say; "What there is of 'Oppression' - in requiring them to conform to the law." -

Neither the fishermen, nor myself think anything of the kind as regards this remark - the act of oppression would only consist in your approval of my proceedings, when I imposed a fine - making a seizure - and Confiscation - all subject at the same time to your Merciful decision. -

These men lose thousands of yards of nets every season - have lost more than 1,000 yards of gill nets this season by sitting too close to the ~~land~~ current - the nets getting weeded during strong easterly blows coming in contact with the rapid river current sometimes destroy thousands of yards of nets in one night. - -

For a fortnight before I visited Niagara this last time, these men had not fished at all. - On the 4<sup>th</sup> May, their nets caught in a storm got weeded and large quantities of them were lost. It took so much time to hunt them up, and when part was found to clean them of the weeds and repair them. - that until the night before I acted as I have done in these cases, they had not fished at all. - -

So long as they were fishing in American waters I had no jurisdiction over them whatever. - They have been doing this for years, and making it a presuming advantage to the Old Borough of Niagara. - -

3



"There is no confiscation - if confiscation means, that I should retain the nets in my own possession, - I said to the fishermen one and all, You keep the nets, until the decision of the Minister is received by me - continue to fish in American Water - get a supply of fish, for the troops, coming to camp at Niagara and make all the money "legally" you can. -

"The urgency of my request to you was based upon the militia going into camp this week at Niagara" - where it appears they are at present. -

The penalty "fine imposed" - I consider all sufficient - for the offence committed. -

and I recommended that the same be approved of. - as for the gill nets - they should be renewed - and made proper legal size to be fished in Canadian Water. - -

Hon<sup>l</sup>. Minister  
H. H.  
Ottawa,

I Have &c  
John W. Kerr  
S. O.

from page 459,

order in the way described, when he went there to deliver the licenses - merely a finishing up of a portion of work he had then in hand to finish before leaving office. - - -

The Circular was communicated by me to the fishermen at B. J. soon after I received it, but some time before I was notified by the Dept. that Mr. J. A. B. was appointed, so that you will please perceive there was no interference on my part at all in this business whatever. -

Copies of letters called for please find herewith.

Hon<sup>l</sup>. Minister,  
H. H.  
Ottawa -

I Have &c  
John W. Kerr  
S. O.



Sir,

20. June 1874.

I have the honor to report for your information that our licensed fishermen who annually fish wh. fish gill nets at Niagara - in Lake Ontario, up to about this time each year, in American waters, always landing the fish at Niagara and disposing of them there to our own people for consumption in the counties of Lincoln and Welland, and in the City of Toronto, have been guilty of a slight contravention of the Fisheries Act, in fishing for, catching and killing wh. fish with gill nets less than 5 inches extension measure, to wit:  $4\frac{3}{4}$  and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches extension measure, - please refer to sub section 2. of section 9. of the Fisheries Act. -

So long as these nets were fished in American waters, I did not feel disposed to interfere, in fact, the matter did not come under my jurisdiction. - However on the night of the 19. Mef<sup>rs</sup> John Staud, Alfred Ball, Wm. Engledew, John Bolton, and Thomas Coice, set out their white fish gill nets as described herein, in the Dominion waters of Lake Ontario, in front of the four mile pond, the same being in the township of Niagara, and they caught wh. fish with these gill nets, they had been previously fishing in American waters. - I was at Niagara myself this morning, and having procured the assistance of a Constable I seized gill nets, and boats, and some wh. fish, and a Trout, then tried the cases, imposed fines - and confiscated the nets - boats, and wh. fish &c, belonging to the undermentioned persons. -

I have in these cases strictly adhered to your instructions, and have imposed fines as follows: -

1. John Stand - fined \$3.- 2,000 yards of Wh; fish gill and boat - Confiscated. - - fine paid. -
2. - Alfred Ball, - fined \$3.- 1,000 yards of Wh; f. gill net and boat Confiscated. - fine paid. -
3. - Wm Engledew, fined \$3.- 2,000 yards of Wh; fish gill net, and boat Confiscated, - fine paid. -
4. Thomas Joyce, fined \$3.- 2,000 yards of Wh; fish gill net, and boat Confiscated. - fine paid. -
5. John Bolton, - fined \$3.- 2,000 yards of Wh; fish gill net, and boat Confiscated, - fine paid. -

Under the Act, and your Circular dated 27, of May last, it was my duty to do this; Your Circular states: "These provisions of the law you will rigidly enforce, and should any one attempt to violate them, you will impose fines, and Confiscate their nets, for non observance of the law." - -

To carry out effectually the Confiscation of the nets, and boats in these cases, will be an act of oppression - in fact ruin to the men and their families. - - Please read your sixth line of Section 16. of the Fishing Act, to the end of it, and for the consideration of the Minister, sub Section 6. of the same Section. -

The fishermen have solicited me to interpose, and write you respectfully, in their behalf they say, if the nets, and boats are restored to them by the Minister, and they are permitted to fish out the nets, they will never offend against the law again. - - This was their just offence, (of this kind) they offered no resistance - they admitted their guilt, and each one signed it. - -

I did not attempt to take away the boat and nets. - It would be expensive to do so. - thinking as I really do, that

the Minister may take a merciful view of these cases. - - -

The gill net fishing in Dominion waters never lasts more than three weeks, for 10. fish gill nets at Niagara in our waters. - - -

The fish are all large and of a superior quality. -

Please find \$7.50 of fine here = with, and \$2.50 of the proceeds of fish seized - Confiscated - and sold. - - -

And you will confer a favour by notifying me by telegraph - the Minister's pleasure in each case, as soon as possible. - - The fishermen will be anxiously waiting to hear it. - - -

I may add - that if I had the power I should restore the nets to the. - - In mending nets, the meshes become small, and even the block on which a five inch mesh, full size is commenced will be small after knitting 1000 yards. -

Will you be pleased to restore their nets, and boats, and accompany the same with a reprimand.

Hon. Minister,  
H. H.  
O. Manna.

I Have &c  
John W. Kerr  
D. O.

Wednesday, 24, June 1874. - - -

at B. beach, to give orders to stop Seining until  
Ministers decision was made known in the cases of  
Catching small Wh. fish - with legal seines - also  
pointed out to Mr. G. Beggs - the boundaries of B.  
beach as it at present exists - so far as the fort<sup>e</sup>  
and the inhabitants there are concerned, went  
out at 8.40. a.m. came in at 7. p.m. Miles about  
32. H & B, <sup>#</sup> 2.50, dinner for self and Ned, and tolls  
8 & 75, 4 -

Saturday 27, June 1874.

at B. beach - gave instructions about the way.  
the Seining should be carried on there in fu-  
ture, read Ministers decision in the matter  
also read the order in Council - and the letter  
that accompanied the same went out at 5.30,  
p.m. came in at 11. p.m. Miles 20. H & W<sup>#</sup>  
<sup>#</sup> 2.50. -

Wm Podkins paid me 5, David Gitch <sup>#</sup> 8,  
and Ben. Goulds, paid me in Hamilton Market.  
<sup>#</sup> 10. - Heard that the morning after - I took Dan<sup>e</sup>  
McFoyne - fish - The pathmaster - saw a basket  
of small white fish - "a shame to see them" -  
that were being taken to Mr. Gale - who keeps  
Ivory in Mrs. Baldrys old place. - Mr. Mc  
Foyne, tried to misrepresent matter - alleging  
that Jack Laaffi caught fish - where in re-  
ality there was nothing of the kind. -  
terrible jealousies. - - -



My dear Sir,

Your letter with five dollars duly received, - stop every person fishing in the Credit. No person allowed to fish any more after the 30.4 instant. - - No hooks, nor lines will be permitted there any more this season except by written permission from myself, which you can vouch for, I will never give. - -

Yrs Sincerely

John W. Kerr

N.O.

Hamilton, Onto.

29. June 1874.

Mr James G. Wilcox,  
Guardian. -  
Port Credit.

Sir,

29. June 1874.

I would like very much to try an experiment in B. bay. - Will you be pleased to allow me to have a few sets made with gill nets for white fish therein, I will report the result and send you all or a portion of the white fish that will be caught there. - - -

Hon. Minister

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr

O,

Sir,

29. June 1874.

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank cheque No: 85, for the sum of Twenty three dollars. - Will you be pleased to apply this amount on account of licenses, for this current year as follows;

1. Benjamin Golds, license to fish Station No: 5, B, beach, in Lake Ontario. - - - X \$ 10.00 X

2. David Gitch, licensed to fish on station No: 3 - B. beach, in Lake Ontario, on a/c/t. - - - X \$ 8.00.

3. William Podkins, license to fish on station No: 8 - B. beach, in Lake Ontario, on a/c/t. - - - X \$ 5.00.

Total. - \$ 23.00 X

When at leisure - please send me licenses for each, same as last season. - -

Yours, Minister

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

I have &c.

John W. Kerr

a,

Monday 29. June 1874.

at Winona - to see Paddy Howard - and get some Wh: fish from him, - and also to ascertain who the persons were who peddled small Wh: fish there - Ad. Syson was the peddler - Anthony King got a load of small Wh: fish from Daniel Mc Coyne. I went out at 3. a. m. came in at 4.30. p. m. - miles 36. - - - 144 Wh: 3.00 - Breakfast 30¢ - see my letter to Minister - regarding the L. Wh: fish I exported to him. - - -

Sir.

29. June 1874.

I took the liberty of sending by Express, this afternoon, six white fish a portion of 32, caught this morning, by Mr Patrick Stands, a white fish gill net fisherman - resident at Winona, in the township of Saltfleet, and County of Wentworth. . . .

These fish were caught in Lake Ontario, in front of the township of Grimsby, and County of Lincoln. I packed the six fish in cut hay and ice, and I trust they will be received by Mr Whitchee in good condition; to whose address I sent them. . . .

If fishing for white fish is suspended altogether - I think I can safely affirm that such splendid wh. fish as those I send you, can be taken in any part of Lake Ontario, within three years from this date. . . .

I may here state for your information that fish of this size and condition were only commenced to be caught last season. . . .

This is an experiment that I hope and trust the department will encourage to its utmost limits. . . I would like to hear from the department, something about these fish. . . .

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.  
G. W. W.

I remain, &c.,  
John W. Kerr  
O.

P.S. - To convince you, that this is not accidental catching, say when you want more and you can have them. -

J. W. Kerr

Sir,

29. June 1874.

I have the honor to send you, herewith  
Bank cheque No: 84, for the sum of twenty two dol-  
lars and  $\frac{50}{100}$ ¢.

Will you be pleased to receive this amount  
as it really is, "with one exception" half of the fines  
to which the prosecutor is entitled, now sent to  
you in obedience to your order to me to this ef-  
fect: viz:

	#		#
1, Peter Hottle, fined	5.00,	Now sent you	2.50,
2, George Hottle, "	5.00,	" "	2.50,
3, George Stouss, "	5.00,	" "	2.50,
4, Chester A. Starris, "	5.00,	" "	2.50,
5, John Starris, -	5.00,	" "	2.50,
6, John Burgett, -	5.00,	" "	2.50,
7, George Hutton -	5.00	" "	5.00,
8, David Starris, -	1.00,	" "	-.50,
9, George Hill, -	1.00,	" "	-.50,
10, Thomas James, -	1.00,	" "	-.50,
11, Edward Hawking -	1.00,	" "	-.50,
12, Edwin Miller -	1.00,	" "	-.50,

Now sent you, \$ 22.50¢

As soon as I receive your Charles Greble  
Esq. J. P., the balance to which the pros-  
ecutor is entitled, I shall cheerfully remit  
the same to you in the usual way. - - -

In my report of 2, of May last, the  
offences committed by each person was fully  
and clearly set forth, then by me. -

Hon. Minister

H. H. H.

Ottawa,

I have &amp;c.

John W. Kern

S.



My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to find herewith, post office order, on Post Rowan, for twenty five dollars. -- This will pay you up in full, to this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, when your services as Guardian on Long point - Lake Erie - in behalf of the Fisheries department, will now cease altogether. --

Be pleased to sign the receipt in duplicate, now sent herewith, and return the same to me without further delay. --

Yours truly,

John W. Kerr.

J. Ouellet,

Hamilton, Ont.

30. June 1874.

Wm. A. Leary. --

Guardian --

Long point. --

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to find herewith, post office order - on P<sup>r</sup> Rowan, for ten dollars, --

This will pay you up in full to this 30. day of June, when your services as Guardian at Long pt, Lake Erie, in behalf of the Fisheries department will now cease altogether.

Be pleased to sign the Receipt in duplicate herewith: and return the same to me without further delay. --

Yours truly,

John W. Kerr.

J. Ouellet.

Hamilton, Ont.

30. June 1874.

Mr. John Dennis,

Long pt.

P<sup>r</sup> Rowan.

My dear Peter,

Will you be pleased to find  
herewith, post office order on St. Williams for  
twenty five dollars. - - -

This will pay you up in full to this 30.  
day of June - although your services were dis-  
pensed with on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of May last. - as  
the Canadian at Turkey Point - Lake Erie. - - -

Be pleased to sign the receipt in duplicate  
now sent you herewith, and return the same to  
me without delay. -

Yrs Truly  
John H. Kent  
St. Williams.  
Hamilton, Ont.  
30. June 1874. -

Peter Price Esq  
St. Williams. -

Telegrams	4	55	paid -	
do.		58.	" -	
Postages		21 1/4	" -	
Registered		3 -		
Express charges on 10 White fish				\$ 4
				1.35,
do on 12 do				1.35.
for Post office order. - - -				45.

My dear Sir.

Your letter is just received, but the six dollars - the balance of Adams rent you said you enclosed to me, I did not find therein, for the simple reason, it was not there. - Are you sure you sent it enclosed in the letter or did you omit to do so. - - Nicolls paid me.

You can take the names of persons spear-  
ing Cat fish, and I will design means to  
furnish them. - please answer me at once. - -

Yours sincerely, -

John W. Kerr

J. C. Guelzer

Hamilton, Ont.

4. July 1874. -

Captain Thompson,  
Port Bruce. -  
Lake Erie.

Sir.

4. July 1874.

I have the honor to apply to you  
for a supply of Incidental blank forms  
and diary blanks, as I have none whatever  
at present in my possession for to make  
out and render my accounts for the past  
quarter ending 30, day of June last. -

Hon: Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr  
O. C.

Sir,

4. July 1874.

With reference to two former letters sent to the department by me, relative to persons complained of for catching and killing pickered during close season, and for having the same in their possession. - I now send you a letter I received from Mrs. Wm. Hanson, of Port Royal, who acted last April with the ex-guardian there. - She is desirous of having Owen Bowers, and others prosecuted for violating the law on the occasion referred to, but in Big Creek, and Big Marsh, township of Washington, in the South Riding of Norfolk. -

I Have &c

Mrs. Minister,  
He. He. He,  
Albany.

John W. Kern,  
D. O. B. O.

P.S. Hanson called on me here the other day, about this matter.

J. W. Kern  
D.O.

Postages 50



Sir,

4. July 1874.

In reply to your letter of the 2<sup>d</sup> inst, I have the honor to explain, that the object, I have in view in making the experiment of fishing White fish gill nets in B. bay, for a few sets - is to ascertain whether or not large White fish can be caught in the deep waters of B. bay, say 120 feet depth, of a superior class. ---

The impression on my mind leads me to this conclusion. --- For it appears to me, that the habits of the large White fish, is to remain in deep water during the months of June and July - for some special purpose of their own. --- Amongst other things to feed on the small shell fish, which the deep water bottoms of the bay and Lake abound with. ---

Hon. Ministers,  
H. H. H.  
O. M. M.

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
D. O.

Sir,

8. July 1874.

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank draft \$30.93. - for thirty one dollars. - Will you be pleased to apply the same for licenses, for this current year as follows: -

1. Mr. Richard Zaaffe & boy. - for licenses to fish pike gill nets in B. bay, last spring, licenses already received by me, and delivered to the licensees, E. C. 5.00.
2. Daniel Gwyne - License to seine haul in B. bay last spring. - - - 5.00.
3. - John Connor, and David Tyson, on appt of license to fish in Lake Ontario - in front of Big Creek - in the township of Saltfleet. License to be same as that issued to John Connor last year - "Price this year 10." 5.00.
4. Jas. J. Milcox - License to fish in Lake Ontario, at Port Credit - Will send you a copy of license in a few days. - - 5.00.
5. William McEbert - License to fish white fish gill nets at Shoal point - L. Ont. License to be the same as that issued last season. - - - 8.00

Hon. Minister

Total \$31.00.

Y. Y. Y. I Have &amp;c.

G. M. M.

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Sir,

11. July 1874.

I have the honor to send you herewith my diary, and incidental accounts, including the pay of the Guardians at Long, and Turkey points, and Big Marsh - Lake Erie - in the County of Norfolk - for the quarter ending the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June last 1874. - - - -

To amount of diary from 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, to the 30. day of June, inclusive - \$ 200.53

" Voucher No: 1. - paid - John Dennis, ex-guardian at Long pt. Lake Erie. - \$ 10.00.

" Voucher No: 2. - paid Wm. H. Leary - ex-guardian at Long point - Lake Erie. - \$ 25.00.

" Voucher No: 3. paid Peter Price, ex-guardian at Turkey point, Lake Erie. - \$ 25.00.

" Voucher No: 4. paid J. W. Kerr - as Greaser - for Sundries. - - - - 23.43.

" Voucher No: 5. - paid Charles J. Kerr Boatman. - M. bay. - - - - 10.00.

" Voucher No: 6. - Wm. Hanson, guardian at Big Creek - Lake Erie. - - - - \$ 15.00

Total, \$ 308.96

In the active execution of my duties for this quarter, I travelled 2594 miles. -

Hon: Minister,  
H. H. H.

Omanua.

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr  
D. O.

Mailed as follows: Licenses to

14	James Cantwell	2.	Hiogoed,
14	John Bolton	2.	do.
14	Charles & A. Ball	1.	do.
14	John Stand	1.	do.
14	Thomas Elliott	1.	do.
14	Henry Sheppard	1.	Queenston..
14	David Derror.	-1.	do..
14	Peter, Bath.	2.	Port Dalhousie.
14	Edwin Miller	1.	Bertie..
14	George House	1.	Bertie..
14	Henry Ed. Miller	1.	Bertie..
14	Henry Wardell	1.	Belkirk
14	Henry Rofs	1	Port Maitland.

Sent to the above this 13. day of July 1874.  
D. W. Kerr

My dear Sir,

D.O.

Your post card is just received, requesting me to send you "those letters" or come up yourself if you possibly can - as our fishing complaints come off on Monday. -

As regards the letter - I don't know what letter you refer to with regard to my attending there, why? John A. Mackhouse likely can manage things to suit all parties without my presence being required. - You are not now in my division - hence one of the reasons why I can not, or will not attend. I hope however you will succeed and connect every one you have complained of. - If summoned as a witness, and my expense were paid, I suppose I would attend. I wish you success - please write me the result.

W. Stanson,  
Port Royal.

Yr. truly

John W. Kerr. D.O.  
Hamilton, Onto.

13. July 1874. -



Sir,

11. July 1874.

I have the honor to submit for your approval herewith statement of prices for half year ending 30<sup>th</sup> day of June 1874.

I have it appears sent to the department myself the sum of thirty five dollars of the amount set forth in the statement: <sup>#</sup>2.50 is for fish sold; <sup>#</sup>33. is for prices - while I still owe the department 50¢ - Total <sup>#</sup>36.

Mr. Treble - Magistrate at Port Erie, it appears, sent the Receiver General fifteen dollars, which you will please find fully accounted for the entire amount of prices set forth in the statement herewith. -

The Costs are accounted for on the face of the Return. -

Hon. Minister

H.

H.

H.

I remain

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
J. S.

# Thursday 16, July 1874.

at N. beach. gave John Gaeffe and David Birch their respective licenses, for the year 1874, bought one dollar worth of fish from Mr Alexander Rolfe, went out at 9.30. a.m. came in at 5. p.m. - miles 26. St & B. 2.50, dinner 50.

# Monday. 20, July 1874. -

at Toronto, Whitby and back to Toronto, made en-  
quiry about Constable Campbell, and the necessity of  
having a Guardian at Whitby - heard that Campbell  
was a great blow - called to see Mr Storey, but  
had no time to stop as the train was on time  
and nearly due. - had a conversation with Mason  
and Blair, Livery man - about Dr. Campbell,  
who gave his character to me in full. - saw Mason  
at Port Union - gave him licenses for George Mark,  
Thomas Mansfield, and Wm. McLeod to deliver for me,  
went on thence to Toronto, - old Mr. Willard took  
me over in his boat - delivered to Mr. Patrick Gray,  
license for self and David Ward who paid li-  
cense fee 20, each for the general license - George Ar-  
nan has not paid - gave Mr. Gray his separate li-  
cense, - Mr. Gray, not Arnan - not fishing at  
present, - went out at 8. a.m. came in at 8.  
p.m. miles 113. Ry fare 3.30, Livery 1.20, - Boat 50, -  
Board 1.20, - at Toronto Island. - - - (6.20)

# Tuesday. 21, July 1874. - -

at Toronto Island. - thence to the City, and from  
thence home, - heard that Billy Ward had been  
catching small white fish - spoke to him about  
it, - went out at 8. a.m. came in at 4. p.m.  
miles 46, Boat 50, Railway fare 1.30 - Breakfast  
35. - - (42.15)

†

Wednesday, 22, July 1874. -  
 at B. beach - to give lots St. B. Villier and Wm  
 Patton - fishing station, No. 16, in Lake Ontario - also  
 Wm. McCallough - joined in with them, the main  
 object they had in view, was by securing the fish-  
 eries, they secured a place on the beach on  
 which they intend to build a summer residence  
 went out at 8. a. m. came in at 4. p. m. -  
 Miles 26. St. B. 3.00, Louisa, Clara, and Eucine  
 with me. - Met the person named above - also  
 Brownjohn and his staff, who measured off the  
 lots, Wm. Villier - was also there. -  
 Bob. Hall, and his mother very inquisitive  
 about their license, and about said people -  
 got 2. White fish - from Alex. Polka and a trout.  
 price 75. - 4 heads of White Cabbage from Wm.  
 H. R. Corey. - Came from there straight  
 home. -

Sir,

23. July 1874,

I have the honor to apply to you in behalf of Colonel St. B. Villiers - the Brigade Major of Militia here - and William Patton - Inland Revenue Inspector - Hamilton District - and William McCallum Secretary of the Hamilton, Wellington, Grey, and Bruce Railway - for a Season License, for fishing Station No. 16, - in Lake Ontario, on Burlington Beach, township of Saltfleet, in the County of Wentworth. - - -

This station is vacant, - hence why! I recommend a license to issue in the names of the above gentlemen. - - -

You are here made respectfully aware that the Mayor and Corporation of the City of Hamilton - are at present getting a survey made of B<sub>3</sub> Beach, which when completed, is to be leased by the Local Government to them, for a term of years; making however the established fishing reservation and Squatter rights - heretofore - and at present in existence and occupancy there - "permanent"

I here take the liberty of stating, for your information, that it is the intention of the Mayor and Corporation, when they come into possession of the present unoccupied portion of the Beach, to lay off building lots there, for the occupancy of respectable people - incorporate it with the City of Hamilton, making it a summer resort and wintering place. - - -

I was asked by Alderman Robert Chisholm, and a resolution was passed at a meeting by the Mayor and City Council to the same effect, to point out to their Surveyor, what portion of B<sub>3</sub> beach was at present occupied by the fishermen, under Squatter rights, and fishing licenses; and what part belonged to,



was Government property - what part belonged to private persons, or to fishermen, under patents from the Crown, and what portion formed the fishing Reserve. -

All this I am in a position to do, because this same information was required of me by the Fishing department some years ago... I presume you would have no objection to me doing this, acting for the interest of the fisheries at all times, just and foremost in these premises. - - -

I have much pleasure in recommending that you will be pleased to issue the license for Station No. 16, as per copy of same herewith, for this current year; at the rate of ten dollars, and for which amount I now enclose your Bank draft. -

Hon. Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

I Have &c. &c.

John W. Kerr  
D. O.

# Monday 27. July 1874.

at Weynona, to get some large white fish, from Paddy Stand, to send to Ottawa, did not get any - he did not lift his large six inch mesh net, thence to B. beach - A. Ditch, complained of Wm Podkin's, running over his ground when seine hauling - having made an exchange of his Cart-mills old ground - for Armstrongs old ground - and required me to give and establish the boundary between him Ditch and Podkin's, went out at 4, a. m. came in at 11.30. Miles about 36, \$4 Pay 3.00, - Breakfast 25¢

# Tuesday 28. July 1874,

at B. beach, measured off 21. chains Lake frontage, from point to point, for A. Ditch, giving him all the place called for, placing a stake at each point to mark the same - intend to notify Wm Podkin's Ditch's station is now No. 7. - went out at 9, a. m. came in at 6.30, p. m. Miles 30. - \$4 B. 3.00 - Dinner 25¢. Mrs Sherbenelle paid me \$4, I delivered her license. -

# Thursday. 30. July 1874,

at Weynona, and B. beach, got 16 fish from Paddy Stand - sent 6 to Ottawa. paid 1.30, express charges thereon. - went out at 4, a. m. came in at 5, p. m. - Miles 40, came home by B. beach - saw allottimes Corey, thence to Alex. Rolla's - home and to Express office with the fish. - gave Paddy Stand his license. - \$3.00. 25¢ breakfast.

Sir,

1. August 1874.

I have the honor to apply to you for permission to purchase a Lin pail, similar to those used by Mr Samuel Wilmut, of ~~the~~ the Irish Breeding Establishment, Newcastle - Ontario . . . .

I want a Lin pail of this description for the purpose of transporting fish from your time to time, from one portion of my district to another, with the sole object of restocking some of the depleted waters of the same. - -

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Hon: Minister  
He. He. He.  
Ottawa,

Friday, 31. July 1874.

at Sus: Bridge - Kingston, and Niagara.  
went out at 8. a. m. came in at 8. p. m.  
Miles 60. - Railway fare - 1.40, dinner 40¢  
tea 25¢, bed 25, Horse & Buggy 2.00.

Saturday 1. August 1874.

at Niagara, Sus: Bridge and Home. -  
By fare 1.90, breakfast and dinner 65¢  
went out at 10. a. m. came in at 5.  
p. m. - Miles 60

Sir,

3, August 1874,

I have the honor to submit for your information, the Copy of a Writ with which I have been served this day, at the instance of Wm. Holmes who claims \$5,000, debt, and 40 Cost.

Hon. Minister  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa,

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr,  
D.O.

\* Saturday, 8. August 1874,

At B. beach, met a double buggy at Geo. O. Se-  
cords. they had rough fish, small perch &c. which  
led me to believe that the fish were caught by a  
Herring Seine - thence to Alex. Kolla: - examined  
D<sup>r</sup>. Ditch, H. Seine - found it had been fished,  
recently. - - thence to Jack Baaffs. - got 12 Herring  
from Ric. Baaffs. - thence up to Tommy Martin's  
Seine hauling ground. - found John and Henry  
Egar. picking up perch and small shad or  
shiners - they had just hauled in. - Daniel  
McGoyne sold me two pigs - 6. on apt of his  
rent - 10 - for station, Ho: 11. B. beach. - went out  
at 3.30. a.m. came in 9. a.m. - miles 20. H. and  
Waggon. 2.50. - b: J. W. Kerr with me. - - -

at fish market. great Seabury with  
P. D. Bates, and Ben: Jolds, Joe Jates. - because  
John Davis. - gets all Paddy and John Hand  
Wk: fish: - wrote the Department this day  
in consequence. - - - - she was on King  
St - did not do so - this day. - - - Medicine.



Sir,

8. August 1874. -

I am happy to inform you, that Mr Pat<sup>k</sup>. Stand, and his brother John, have had very fair wh: fish gill net fishing in L. Ontario, in front of the township of Grimsby, during this week of these choice wh: fish - small samples of which I sent Mr Whitaker - Commissioner, for the information of the department. - - -

Upwards of five years have elapsed before Patrick Stand could find the place where these choice fish have now made it their resort. - - And altho' Mr P. Stand's license this year extends from Wymona to Grimsby, distance about five miles, still the fish referred to, are all being fished for, and caught within the space of about one square mile. - - -

This is the third year that these splendid wh: fish have been taken and caught in this locality: Hence the fish have become the admiration of the beholders, causing people to make a steady rush for them daily being bought up at remunerative prices both to the lucky fishermen, who fishes for and catches them, and to the fortunate fish dealer who has secured to himself for the Hamilton people, the consumers, the sale of the said fish at prices of 20¢ for the smaller, and 30¢ a piece for the larger fish, which the dealer then sells to his customers from 30¢ to 75¢ a piece all round. - - -

It appears, because Mr John Davis, fish dealer, - in Hamilton market, has been able to get all the wh: fish, Pat Stand, and his brother catches, except what supplies occasionally, the farmers in the locality receive: - A great deal of business pervades

the mind of Mr. B. D. Bates & boy - other fish dealers here who have been behaving for some time back, and endeavouring to get me to recommend other fishermen to the department - from B. beach for a license to fish and be partakers of the ~~the~~ stands Mr. labour, loss of time, and successful result, in hunting up this good fishing ground, and from which they are now reaping a deserved reward: - which in the interest, and prosperity of the Fisheries, they are worthy of . . . .

There is about 6,000 yards of S. V. and W. fish gill nets being now daily fished on the ground, and my own opinion, and experience is that this quantity is all sufficient; any more gill nets fished thereon, would be to fish the place to excess, and ruin this fishery in quick time: - I therefore have in reply to the application made to me stated this! - Besides the stand, Mr. live on and are in front of the fishery, which has been established by Mr. Paddy Stand, who hunted up and discovered it himself. . . . B. beach fishermen want by their covetous desire, to go all the way from the Beach - to this fishery - to fish, it being upwards of 12 miles. . . .

I have no desire, and I respectfully ask that the department will uphold me in this matter, that B. beach fishermen should be made partakers in the profits of this valuable fishery without the permission of the licensee, brought into existence by the perseverance, and toil of said licensee, after a long, and tedious test and trial of several years: hence my chief reason for now writing you on this subject; and because it is part of what I have been labouring for, and aiming at for

nearly ten years - viz<sup>5</sup> the protection - the pro-  
duction, and introduction of these very choice  
wh<sup>1</sup> fish, now accomplished into our  
markets. - - - - -

Hon<sup>1</sup> Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries  
Ottawa,

I Have the Hon<sup>1</sup> Hon<sup>1</sup>

John W. Storer  
J. G. Guesse.

Monday, 10. August 1874, - - -

At Wynaona to see Paddy and John Stand, -  
got twelve White fish - 10 poun each - sent seven  
of them by express to W. J. Whitehead - Commissioner  
Ottawa - paid express charges thereon <sup>4</sup>1.35 - Miles 36.  
Buggy <sup>4</sup>\$3.00, Breakfast & Horse feed 50¢ went  
out at 4. a. m. came in at 5 p. m. packed the  
fish in saw dust and ice - box and all 65 lb  
weight - John Stand paid me 5<sup>¢</sup> license fee -  
Paddy gave me \$20. towards his new boat,  
John Davis gave me 30<sup>¢</sup> towards it, -

Tuesday, 11. Aug<sup>1</sup> 1874 -

At Toronto Island - to make enquiry about the  
seining for White fish, - Hurman & Gray, - did  
have this season - during July and August,  
saw George Hurman - bought a boat from  
him for Paddy's Stand for \$80. - paid him  
\$65. - there is 15<sup>¢</sup> still due George Hurman,  
but Paddy - has to me 30<sup>¢</sup>, - went out  
at 6. a. m. came in at 7.30. p. m. Miles  
92. Ry fare <sup>4</sup>2.60, Boat hire <sup>4</sup>75, dinner 50<sup>¢</sup>  
Cafe & B<sup>1</sup> hire <sup>4</sup>2.50, - - -

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 6<sup>th</sup> instant, in which you refer to a Conversation, you have had with Mr. John Woodworth, about <sup>the</sup> renting his china next fall . . .

This is a matter with which I do not wish to interfere, because I cannot see how you can work it, and get up the river, in consequence of your bodily infirmity. . . please let me have all the particulars, and if they are such as I can approve of, then I will submit the matter to the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Minister, &c. Ottawa. for his consideration.

In all cases of Licenses - I do this, in strict obedience to my orders.

Please kindly remember me to Mr. Joseph Gabriel. -

Yours respectfully -

John W. Kerr

D. O.

17. Aug. 1874.

Mr. J. W. Patterson -  
Queenston,  
Onto.



Sir,

1. August 1874.

In compliance with your request, and with the sanction of the Fishery department, Ottawa, I have the honor to report and furnish you with all the present particulars, and occupied position of Burlington Beach, which is situated in the township of Sault Ste. Marie, in the South riding of Wentworth, and Province of Ontario. --- As far as my knowledge serves me, I have already by your direction communicated and pointed out to the Messrs. Thomas B. Brownjohn and Wm. J. Bigges, <sup>P.L.S. Civil Engineers &c.</sup> employed by the Mayor and Corporation, to make a survey, and map of B<sup>e</sup>ach under your personal superintendence. --- The property of B<sup>e</sup>ach owned by the Dominion Gov<sup>t</sup> as "Fishery Reserve" - "Canal Reserve" - and the land owned by the Provincial Government, &c. &c., and squatted on. - I shall here describe to you as follows: -

The beach proper commences in front of Peter S. Van Wagner's Esq<sup>re</sup> J. P., who is the owner and occupant of lots, No: 25 & 26, in B. T. township of the Township of Sault Ste. Marie. - The beach then continues its course west up in front of Mr. Joseph Luty - property, situated on the main land in Sault Ste. Marie. --- Here in front of Mr. Luty's residence, is the small tenement of Abraham's Covey, an old fisherman - who occupies the fishing station No: 2, in Lake Ontario, and fronts the beach in front of his dwelling; he has also a small garden fenced in. - I find also that Abraham's Covey, is simply rated on the Ass<sup>t</sup> roll of Sault Ste. Marie, for this current year, as Householder, \$50. without any land whatever. ---

I have never heard that Mr. Luty

who owns a farm of 45 acres here on the main land, had any claim to the beach in front of his farm. . . .

Mr. Brothwaite, owns the two farm lots on the main land west of Joseph Lutz, in front of which on the Bah Platine Bay, - Jishermans, occupies a house, and is the licensee of fishing station No. 3 - Platine Bay, Squatter and built here about 4 years ago. . . . He is however an old resident, being born on Bah Bay. . . .

Next in order to Mr. Lutz, is the residence of Mr. Joseph Perry, together with his stable, paint and workshops. . . .

Mr. Perry, is an intelligent mechanic. Master carriage maker - Blacksmith and Horse shoe. - Mr. Perry has resided here in this place, since the ballasting of the J. W. Ry. was being carried on by Messrs. Harris and Adams, who had the contract for ballasting, up to and as late as the year 1854. - Joseph Perry, worked for these contractors then. . . . and has continued to reside on the beach ever since up to this present time. . . . Platine Bay, I find is rated as Householder \$100. - on the Aps<sup>5</sup> roll - for the year 1874. and

Mr. Joseph Perry is also rated as Householder 300. on the Aps<sup>5</sup> roll for the year 1874. . . . The beach

whereon their houses, &c. &c., are situated, belongs to the Provincial Government, and the fishing department of the Dominion of Canada - Ottawa. . . . Even the land and water "break" inside the post and board fence situated in front of Mr. Brothwaite's two farm lots, as far as the South bank of the same belongs to and forms part of Bah Bay, say, from the Nor, on the side road, near Joseph Perry's down as far as Squire Peter S. Van-Magners farm. . . .

The post and board fence referred to, was erected there on the beach, by the late George Brothwaite, say, about twelve years ago; About nine years ago Mr. George Brothwaite through me applied to the

Fishing department - to buy from them this fenced in portion of B<sup>n</sup> Bch, here referred to. - I may here further state that since Mr Geo: Croftworth's death, this fenced in portion of B<sup>n</sup> Bch was included in Mr Joseph Perry's fishing license. One season. -

Next comes Mr Geo: Croftworth's holding under Deed - of a portion of B<sup>n</sup> Bch. - I have handed you a copy of the Patent, from the Crown of this portion of B<sup>n</sup> Bch. - Mess<sup>rs</sup> Biggs and Brown = John, can determine the boundaries of this beach, property, comprising as it does, 7 acres, with two chains included therein, running through the same for a public road allowance. - - - So as to fix the location more accurately and definitely from the other portion of B<sup>n</sup> Bch in this locality. -

There is a large barn on the property, and a school House - Alexander Gray, fisherman is rated for the year 1874, as Householder \$50, and Jonathan Corey - is rated for the year 1874, Householder \$100, and both are represented as Tenants to Mr Croftworth. - I believe there is more land set apart here, as the property of Mr Croftworth, than her deed calls for. - - -

Then comes two acres of Bch held and owned during the ballasting of the F. W. Ry - by the late John Ogilway Hatt Esq<sup>r</sup> deceased, ... And I did hear there was an acre of the beach some place in this immediate immediate locality leased to James Luge of Boston, on which to erect a store House and wharf. - say about 40 years ago. - James Luge - was Mr Birley's father. - - - Then comes a large piece of sand and gravel beach, in front of which is situated fishing station Nos: 4, 5, and 6. - It runs



as far up as the Barren Stand of David Fitch - it is all an open Common. . . . Nevertheless, it is all claimed by Mr George Lottidge - as his property - and I believe the G. W. Ry. Company - made him some Compensation for the ballast they took therefrom about the year 1854. . . . The old patent from the Crown granted to a certain Colonel John Young of Maldenham - under which Mr George Lottidge claims possession to Mr. Bach, does not legally apply to the beach in any manner whatever, as Mr Youngs property, however he always manages to get paid for the portion of the said beach he lays claim to, as instance the site for the filtering basin. . . .

Mr George Lottidge lives on the main land on the south side of the creek, which divides the main land from the long Burlington Beach. . . . It does <sup>not</sup> however appear that Mr Geo. Lottidge has had himself assessed as the owner of this open beach, or as Freeholder of it, for the year 1874, nor for any previous year, that I am aware of. . . .

Next in order, is the barn of David Fitch situated on a rising knoll, where is represented to me, is the spot that during the war of 1812, was occupied by the Kings Head Inn. . . . Then just a few feet south of this barn is a small dwelling house and a garden occupied at present by Duncan McMillan, a Tenant in some way to Mr George Lottidge. - Duncan is rated only as Householder, \$200, for the year 1874.

I merely refer to this to show you that the land used as a garden is not included in the assessment roll - nor is Duncan McMillan represented as a Tenant of Mr George Lottidge. . . . Duncan is a fisherman. -

The next in order is the House or Barren Stand of David Fitch, - who is also a fisherman, he has 5 acres of beach land, together with the barn site, the land is on the north side of the creek running from the road near the Bridge up the Beach parallel with and the full extent of the Filtering



basin. . . . Two years ago, David Fitch - bought all this property from Mr George Lottidge - for the sum of \$ 800,- which he paid him for it. . . . And since he purchased, Fitch has improved the property to the extent of \$ 350. more, whatever Mr George Lottidge's title is, he has disposed of these five acres of beach; he had fenced in, besides House and barn - for \$ 800. Cash. . . . David is rated as freeholder \$ 300. on the apt<sup>l</sup> roll, for the year 1874. . . . To assess him as freeholder, is wrong. - David Fitch is also a licensed fisherman. . . .

Just adjacent, in rear of Fitches "Barn" - is a small, new House, and an old House, the property of the heirs of the late Thomas Armstrong, "~~deceased~~". . . . Thomas Armstrong, I find was rated as Householder, \$ 200. - for the year 1874. . . . Then comes the pitting basin - the property of your Corporation. . . .

I may have drawn your attention to a fact, that many persons with teams, daily taking sand from the beach, for building purposes, have approached very close to the picket fence of this basin - on the Lake side, for which you will please excuse me for drawing your attention to it, so that you may represent the same to the proper department of the City Council. . . .

Mr Alexander Rolla - occupies a fenced in lot, with house, a stable, and Ice House. - fenced in on the bay side. . . . Rolla's place is also claimed by Mr George Lottidge. - Rolla is a fisherman, is rated as Householder, \$ 200, for the year 1874, without land, and not as a tenant of Mr George Lottidge. . . .

Next comes Mr Wm. Rodkin - fisherman - whose house is on the open beach. . . . Rodkin has a garden on the Bay side, next to Rolla's fenced in. - Rodkin is rated as Householder, \$ 200, for the year 1874. - Fishing Station No. 8 - in front of

Podkin, dwelling is licensed, and occupied by him. - -

Next comes the isolated residence of David Armstrong, he is employed as fireman in your water works, establishment - at Burlington Beach, he is rated as Householder, \$200, for the year 1874. - -

John Baaffe - fisherman - licensee of Station No. 9, his house stands "Isolated" on the beach, he has a small vegetable garden next to Podkin's, fenced in on the bay - - side of the beach, he too, is rated as Householder, \$150, for the year 1874. - -

Next in order comes Mr. Aaron Fletcher, a very old resident on Bay Beach, his house, workshop, "he is a boat builder, and fisherman" - and a shanty stand on the open beach. - - He lives in the shanty, and rents his house and garden, "about 3 acres of land" - to Mr. George Hall - fisherman. Fletcher is rated as Householder, \$150 - for the year 1874, while George Hall, his tenant, does not appear on the appt roll, at all for the year 1874. - - -

Richard Baaffe - fisherman - House stands "Isolated" - on the open beach, he is rated Householder, \$150, on the appt roll - for the year 1874. - - -

Then comes John Dynes - I may here tell you that Mr. George Lottridge claims all Burlington Beach from the guttering basin, up to Dynes - deeded property both on the open, and fenced in portion of Bay Beach, - John Dynes is brother-in-law to George Lottridge, and has a large piece of the beach on the Bay side fenced in, that George Lottridge claims to own. - - -

John Dynes - as I understand, has a patent or deed, for 22 acres of beach land - I found by the appt Roll, he is rated for 40 acres, \$600, and for personal property, 125, as Inn Keeper, and Shareholder - for the year 1874. - - Help Mr Wigges and Whorngah, the Provincial Land Surveyor, you have employed

can accurately tell you, how much land his patent represents him as really entitled to. . . . It is situated between the waters of the Bay, and Lake Ontario, but a reservation for a road allowance of two chains, running through the Centre of it, is deducted, or to be deducted from the whole. . . .

"The starting point is given in Mr. Dyne's patent, and the measurements of the four sides, given in the description - hence I can see no difficulty in finding the locality, and the accurate quantity of land, including the two chains for Road allowance." Mr. John Dyne is justly entitled to, under the deed issued to his father - the late Samuel Dyne - by the Crown. . . .

The balance he squatted on, will be is a matter of right - the property of the Provincial Govt, and the Fishing department - because there are two fishing stations, Nos. 10, and No. 10, situated in Lake Ontario, in front of the greater part of the beach, Mr. John Dyne claims as his, under deed, and his rights as a squatter. . . .

Mr. Dyne's house stands on the open beach, while his barn is within the fenced portion of the land on the Bay side. . . . Messrs. Briggs and Brownlie and myself have discussed this case carefully, and the two former will give it all due consideration, separating and defining the deeded property from the squatted on property, Mr. John Dyne holds possession of, both within and without the fence on Port Maitland. . . . The surveyors and myself have arrived at this reasonable conclusion, so as to show each portion distinct, and separate on their plan, now in the act of preparation for you. -

Next comes in order Mr. Robt. Pradt who it appears bought two acres of land



this year, from John Dyne, for the sum of \$150. Cash, and on which Bradt has since built him a glass house. . . . These two acres, I am persuaded is not any part or portion of the deeded land, owned by John Dyne, already referred to, by me. . . .

Robert Bradt, is not rated on the apt<sup>5</sup> roll, this year at all. . . .

Daniel McGwynne - fisherman - has a house etc, and is licensed for fishing station No. 11, Lake Ontario, he has also two acres of garden situated between Thomas Martin, and Fred<sup>K</sup> McLoary's holdings - as hereafter to be hereafter described in this report for your information. Daniel is rated as Householder, \$200, for the year 1874.

Zachariah Corey - an old fisherman, has a small shanty - next on the beach, he is not rated on the roll, for the year 1874. . . .

Wm<sup>H</sup> Dapew, living in a small cottage belonging to Mr Benjamin Folds, as Tenant, he is however, rated as Householder, \$100, on the apt<sup>5</sup> roll, for the year 1874. . . .

Benjamin Folds has a garden fenced in, in front of his house, which stands on the open beach, although he grows vegetables in the garden, about 2 acres, which he bought this year from John Dyne, for 150<sup>00</sup>. still I find he is rated Householder, 200<sup>00</sup>, on the apt<sup>5</sup> roll for the year 1874. . . .

Then next is three acres of beach land belonging to an American - named Blingensmith, he bought it several years ago, from John Dyne for 150<sup>00</sup> dollars in gold, these acres, are also Gov<sup>t</sup> Provincial property. . . .

Next Mr Thomas Martin keeps Tavern - it is on the open beach - with Ball room - and swings - and a stable standing back near the Lake, . . . On the Bay side, there is a dwelling house, Green House, a flower and fruit garden, &c, of some extent



Martin is however rated as Householder, \$150 - on the apt<sup>h</sup> roll, for the year 1874. - - -

The late Peter Grant, Esq<sup>r</sup> "deceased" held a three year lease - from the fishery department of this property, together with fishing station No: 12, in front of same - and for which he paid \$20. annually. - Since his death - Martin pays only ten dollars per year for the fishery. - - - The executor of the late Peter Grant, have a claim against this property. - - This property, and the fishery attached to it was formerly occupied by Mr George Brooks. - - -

The next, is a point running south east into the bay from Martins Wharf, this is a very narrow strip, and is claimed, as belonging to the fishery department, as a fishery reserve. - - -

I may here state for your information that John Dyne, has all the beach from Aaron Gletches to Thomas Martin, fenced in, on the Bay side, and which he claims, and occupies as his property, except what he sold this year to Robert Bradt &c, as herein alluded to. - - -

Next in order is Fred<sup>d</sup> H. Corey, Saw Keeper, who has a large garden fenced in - he is rated as House Holder, 300, on the apt<sup>h</sup> roll, for the year 1874. Mr Corey's house, and Ball room, is within the fenced in property on the Bay side, while his stable is on the open beach in front of the dwelling house. - - I may here state for your information, that recently, within this year, Mr Corey, has claimed that he made a survey of all the beach from his place of residence up as far as Mrs Anne Sherbanelles, during the year 1863. - He also sold some years ago, a piece of this open beach, in front of fishing station No: 15, to Mr John Brown, Merchant of this City - from whence or from whom Mr Corey

derived authority to do this, I am purposed to conjecture. . . . This beach from the jutting basin, to Mrs Annie Shanbanelle's, is at present an open Common. Fishing Station 13, is in front of Boreys. . . .

We next come to Mr John Thomas, who occupies the House and premises formerly owned and in the possession as squatter, and fisherman of Charles Borey, "deceased" during his life time. . . . Some years after Charles Borey's death his Widow married Robert Bradt, being about to sell the same to one John Adkins, back rents being due on Fishing Station No. 14, in connection with this property.

The fishing department gave consent to the transfer of the same as at present leased in from Bradt to Adkins, on the payment of the back rents, which was carried into effect, to the amount of \$40.- John Adkins subsequently disposed of the place to the present occupant, without the consent or sanction of the fishing department. . . . Thomas, the present occupant, would never rent the fishing in connection with his "squatter" holding, did not want the fishing at all. . . . Mr John Thomas, is only a few years settled there; and altho' there is about 9. acres of land, in his piece in garden, he is rated simply as householder, \$200, and 115, on personal property - the land itself being taken no notice of whatever, in the assessor's roll for the year 1874. . . .

Horris J. Bailey, is rated, \$100, but the assessor's roll, does not say what it is for. - I, however presume - that it is for one acre of land, he bought during this year from Mrs Joan Baldry. . . .

John McLean, has a piece in lot, of an acre of land, next to Bailey, he is Thos. H. Borey's son-in-law. - Mrs Borey, bought this lot a few years ago, from Zachariah Borey - and has since given it to her daughter Mrs John McLean. . . .

This lot is not assessed for the year 1874. - Thomas Campbell - has a House and two acres of land next to McGowan - he is rated as owner jointly with W<sup>m</sup> Smith - as Householder and Gun Keeper, \$300. on the ass<sup>t</sup> roll, for the year 1874. - Has a stable on open beach. - - -

Col. W<sup>m</sup> McGowan - Merchant - has a license for fishing in Station No. 14 - He had a survey made two years ago, by the late Thomas Allen Blythe Deputy Provincial Land Surveyor, of a portion of the open beach, in connection with his fishing, intending to build a summer residence thereon. - - - The Colonel is not ass<sup>d</sup> for any property on Ba. Beach for the year 1874. - - -

Then there is David Wells - has a fenced in lot of an acre of land, with a House. - he is not on the ass<sup>t</sup> roll, for the year 1874. - - -

The next lot, still on the Bay side is owned by John Brown - Hamilton - he bought it several years ago, from "Fred<sup>k</sup> H. Carey. - - - Mr. Brown is not assessed for this lot for the year 1874. - - - nor is he ass<sup>d</sup> for the lot, which he bought from "S. H. Carey, situated on the open beach. - - -

Mr. Adam Brown, owns a lot next to his brother John - but he does not appear on the ass<sup>t</sup> roll for it, for the year 1874. - - -

Then James Nofs, is ass<sup>d</sup> as Householder, for a lot that belongs to W<sup>m</sup> Murray, and Major O'Reilly. - Nofs is rated, 150, for the year 1874. - - -

Then comes Mr. S. B. Gregory, occupying an acre of land - this he bought from Mr. Waddell, of Ba. Beach last year. - - He is not on the ass<sup>t</sup> roll for the year 1874. - - -

Mr. Alex<sup>r</sup>. Turner - Merchant - Hamilton occupies a lot next to Gregory, on which he has built a Cottage this year, - for a summer residence. - Turner is not rated for the year 1874. He bought



from Charles Abraham, who bought from Mrs Waddell this year. . . .

Then Charles Abraham, he has a lot, he bought from Mrs Waddell this year. . . .

Then Thomas L. Kerr Esq<sup>r</sup> Merchant - owns a lot he is not ap<sup>d</sup> for it, for the year 1874. . . .

A lot on open beach, bay side - claimed by a Mrs Walsh - not ap<sup>d</sup> for, year 1874. . . .

Messrs Colonels S. B. Millers, Brigade Major - Hamilton, and Wm. Patton - Inland Revenue Dept - Hamilton, and Wm. McCallough, Secretary of the Hamilton, Wellington Bay and Bruce Railway - own and occupy three small lots, in connection with fishing station Nos: 16, of which they are licensees. . . . They will build residences thereon, which will be hereafter a Credit and ornament to this locality. . . .

Robert Hall - and his Mother, Mrs Anne Sherburne have a House and lot, Robert is a fisherman, he has fenced in about one acre of beach land, this year, and planted the same with trees. . . . Robert is a useful man in this community, and is rated Householder, \$150, on the roll of ap<sup>d</sup> for the year 1874. . . . His mother is an old resident on Mrs Bach. . . .

Then we have Messrs Charles Abraham, and Harry J. Birley, rated as Freeholders, \$800, which is improper.

They bought out Mrs Joan Baldrey last year for \$1800. - She had no legal title there beyond length of possession, and the occupancy of the fisheries for several years under an annual license. . . .

They occupy the same ground Mrs Baldrey did, together with fishing stations Nos: 18, and 19, in Lake Ontario, and Nos: 1 and 2 in Burlington Bay, and which comprises the entire frontage of their purchase. . . . For their licenses of the fisheries; they pay annually \$20, It is wrong however to rate them Freeholders, as the property



is still invested in the Crown: - - As is also all the other property of M<sup>r</sup>. Beh, with the few exceptions I have pointed, and laid down for your information. - - Mr. George Gale, keeps the House as Tavern - and is doing a flourishing summer business. - -

Next in Order is Mr. Dolly Waddell, she occupies a House, keeps a drinking Saloon - "without a license" - Is not rated on the assessment roll, for the year 1874. - -

Then we have the Ferryman's House - Henry Grog - rated as Householder, \$50 - on the ass<sup>t</sup>, for this year. - - Henry Grog, having left the Ferry - Robert Fletcher - now occupies the position of Ferryman, under the superintendence of Captain Thompson - Light House Keeper. - - -

Captain George Thompson, Light House Keeper, occupies a brick dwelling house, he does not appear to be rated this year. - - -

Captain Thompson's - Fletcher's, Waddell's - and Gale's - Houses, <sup>premises</sup> are all situated upon what is known on M<sup>r</sup>. Beh - as the "Canal Reserve" - As is also the Stone Light House. - - -

Then comes the Canal, and Benjamin Coice, a fisherman - is the only resident there, he occupies the fisheries - and pays an annual license fee to the fishery department. Ottawa - although rated last year: Benjamin Coice, does not appear to be rated on the ass<sup>t</sup> roll, for the year 1874. - - -

The last property of M<sup>r</sup>. Beh then continues on still, until it comes to what is known and described as the "Old Outlet" - from Bay to Lake Ontario, which is the dividing line between the townships of Sattler and Helson. - - The exact position of this

outlet can also be determined by the measurements laid down on the present plan of the Fisheries occupied by Benjamin Loice. . . . When measured off by your Surveyors, commencing at the Canal the exact place of this outlet, can even at this remote day, be again established. . . .

I may here state for your information, that in Lake Ontario, from point to point on St. Catharines, the fisheries are fixed, and established by law. . . . and in St. Catharines Bay, on St. Catharines the same is in operation, and is applied to the fisheries there. . . .

In Conclusion, - I have to state for your information, that I have given Messrs. Bigger, and Brown, all the information of the property on St. Catharines, this report to you contains to enable them to make an accurate survey and plan of the same for you. . . . I have gone over the ground, and pointed out to them, the locations of all the persons concerned; which this report will now more fully inform you of. . . .

With all due regard and respect for you, and with this plain statement of facts, hoping the same contains all the information which you require. . . .

I have the Honor, to remain  
Sir,

With due respect,

Your Obedient Servant,

John W. Kerr  
J. Deane  
Hamilton District.

To, Robert Whithorn Esq  
Chairman of  
Finance Committee  
Corporation of the City  
of Hamilton. . . .

Sir,

28. Augt 1874,

As requested by you, I have now the honor to send you copy of report made by me to Robert Chisholm Esq<sup>r</sup> Chairman. Finance Committee - Corporation - City of Hamilton..

A Map of B<sup>y</sup> Beach is being prepared, which will represent what my report contains...

If you want a copy of it; please let me know and I will procure it for you...

I Have &c.

Hon<sup>r</sup>. Minister,  
 &c. &c. &c.,  
 Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
 T.O.

Wednesday 25. August 1874. -

On B<sup>y</sup> beach; Bob Borast told me Conf<sup>l</sup> =  
 dentially - that Dan McJuryne, Eliza McJuryne, Sam<sup>l</sup> Corey - himself and Thomas Martine - John - had fished - and caught white fish - small and large with a Sker =  
 ring seine - on night of 19, and 20<sup>th</sup> of Augt was to get 5<sup>#</sup> for his hand share only received 4<sup>#</sup> - Eliza McJuryne told them to haul away, as she had permission to do so. - - and she would stand between them and harm. - - the ferry boat was sunk could not cross the Canal. - went out at 8. a. m. came in at 3. p. m. Mule 24. At & B<sup>y</sup>, 2.50. Charles John Wankere, with me. - -

Thursday, 27, Aug<sup>r</sup> 1874. -

\* at Verona - to see Pat<sup>r</sup> and John Stand. Pat<sup>r</sup> Stand, complained that David Gyson and John Connor had set the previous evening on his fishing ground, and within his licensed limits - got a dozen wh<sup>r</sup> fish from them - sent 3 to Mr W. Hanna - wrote and sent the following notice to them, and gave it to Paddy Stand to deliver. -

Mess<sup>rs</sup> John Connor,

and

David Gyson -

Fishermen - Grimsby.

You are complained of, for fishing within the licensed limits of Pat<sup>r</sup> Stand - in G. Ontario, a fisherman, and for which offence, I am instructed <sup>by him</sup> to take proceedings against you. -  
Hamilton, Ont<sup>r</sup>.

John W. Kane,

J. W. Kane.

27, Aug<sup>r</sup> 1874.

Gave Paddy - instructions what he would do in the case - Johnny Stand applied to license from Grimsby down to Essex Durhams - went out at 5.30, A.M. came in at 11. A.M. Miles 28 - thence to Hamilton - with fish - Miles 6. - Horse & W<sup>g</sup> 3.00, Exp<sup>ts</sup> Charges 80¢. - -



Sir,

2. Sep: 1874, - -

I have the honor to send you Bank  
cheque No: 171, for the sum of twenty three dollars, -  
Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
as follows; for this current year.

1. John Stand, for fishing license in Lake Ontario,  
in front of the township of Grimsby, already  
received and delivered. \$ 5.00.
2. Patrick Stand, on acct of fishing license  
in L. Ontario in front of Saltfleet and  
Grimsby ("10. the fee") sent now. 5.00.
3. Isaac Durham, License to fish in Lake  
Ontario, in front of lot No: 21, in the  
1st concession of Grimsby. 6.00.
4. Wm McCullough - his portion of license  
fee - for Station No: 16, in Lake Ontario, on  
B. Bel - please refer to my letter to you  
of 23<sup>rd</sup> of July 1874. 5.00.
5. John Proudfoot License to fish in Lake  
Ontario, at Whitby, for the remainder of  
this year. \$ 3.00,

Deduct, disallowed by you,  
sent 16. of May last for Oscar  
Henson -

1.00      2.00  
Total \$ 23.00

Hon: Minister  
to the  
Parliament,

I Have &c  
John W. Kerr  
S. O.

Mr Alex. Kolla,

Fisherman.

Dr. Beach,

Don't you think it is time for you to apply, and take out your license for this year. - You have no power to fish in another fisherman's ground unless you have a license of your own to fish some place else. - Father has Paddy, I have any power to allow you to fish within his licensed limits - under any plea whatever without the sanction of the department. - See me at once on this subject. - and keep from being fined, &c. &c. &c.

Schulthess

J. Ouellet

Hamilton, 3. Sep. 1874.

Immediate

Sir,

3, September 1874.

I was more than a little surprised on my arrival on Dr. Beach this afternoon, to find that Alex. Kolla had fished up on your ground on Wednesday morning 1200 yards of New Britain gill net, catching 43 trout, which he sold some as high in price as 75¢ a piece. -

Now while I have been guarding this ground carefully for you, and to benefit the fisheries, for some years past - and preventing it being fished to excess, - attempting, and keeping away trespassers, &c. I must now call upon you to assist me with all your might in a proper spirit to continue to do this, you must and it is your duty to actively assist me to carry out faithfully into effect, the provisions of the Fisheries Act, just as much as it is your duty to obey the law (itself) yourself.

By the 13. Section of the Fisheries Act, today, you are permitted to allow

Alexander Rollo, to fish within your licensed limits - "provided he has a license himself from the department of Fisheries?" - But I understand, that even if he has a license to fish in some other place in Lake Ontario, which he has not got yet?" your policy in allowing Rollo to fish is not a sound one. - In as much as you notified Bourne and Tyson not to fish on your ground, and I may here candidly tell you, this proceeding on your part does not meet my approval. -

I condemn it in toto, and because it is neither a sound nor proper course for you to pursue; it becomes necessary for me to tell you, that in as much as Alexander Rollo has not yet this year spoken to me about taking out his license, he can fish no more on your ground, nor in any other part of L. Ontario, until he first does so. - And not then, on your ground until the sanction of the fishing department, is first had, and obtained for him to do so. - Your power you will perceive is limited under restriction. -

By the course you have pursued in this case, you have reflected a serious blow, against yourself, and to the fisheries, by creating a spirit of jealousy and insubordination in the minds of other fishermen residents on Don Roche John <sup>now</sup> think they have just as much right to fish on Paddy Hand's ground as Rollo, or Johnny Hand has or as Paddy Hand has himself. -

You will more distinctly understand your own position so well

in this matter, that you will at once apprise Alex. Kolla, and without delay, that he cannot fish any more on your ground until the dept at Ottawa just approve of his doing so. . . .

Be it known to you my friend - that if your ground is so very extensive in fish as appearances and your own take indicate, and would lead persons to suppose and believe. - It is the duty of the Quaiers - to judge to what further extent it can be fished, "without resorting to excels" - and then if I think fit represent the same to the Commissioner to be laid by him before the Hon. Minister at Ottawa. . . .

You know your duty, I presume in this case, the same as I do mine - then act promptly, and decisively and at once in the matter. . . .

In Pat<sup>l</sup> Stand,

Fisherman  
Winona, Sp. of Saltfleet.

I am Sir

Your obedient servant,  
John W. Kerr  
J. Quaiers.  
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P.S. -

Let us for instance view this fishing matter in a proper business manner, admitting that while your ground is so very good and profitable, for white fish at the lower end, in front of Grimsby, it is equally as good at the upper end in front of Saltfleet, for magnificent Salmon Trout - producing more fish than you have means to catch yourself and your brother, enough beyond what you require for yourself to satisfy two friends. - View the case in this way, and you will find your course in inviting an unlicensed fisherman, or a licensed fisherman to fish, without the sanction of the fishing dept is neither sound nor proper. -

J. W. Kerr  
J. Q.

3. Sep: 1874. . . .



Thursday, 3, Sep: 1874. -

At M: beach, to see Thomas Martin, and collect license fee, also to make enquiry if any person was breaking fishery laws. - Came to the beach from Wivona, having gone there in the morning to see Paddy and John Hand, about their complaint against H<sup>c</sup> Tyson and John Connor. -

Paddy info me they left for home and in doing so, they stole Myer M<sup>c</sup> Curdys 10h: fish gill net. - that he was in town of Grimsby the day before, when M<sup>c</sup> Curdys told him he had given them a net fish - that they set it out, and next day reported to him it was stolen. - Paddy told me he saw them lifting the net, and then sale for home. - he described the leads on the net having a belt all round - so that I might be able to look out. - in coming by the beach John Connor &c, had no nets on reel - got H<sup>c</sup> Conroy to keep an eye on them for me. - Heard that Alex: Rolles, caught 43, Salmon 9<sup>th</sup> day before on Paddy Hand ground - which raised great commotion on Beach so far as Jack and Dick Taffs were concerned. Went out at 9. a. m. came in at 5.30. p. m. Miles 34. 47 W<sup>h</sup> 3.00

Monday, 4. Sep 1874.

at Toronto - and P<sup>5</sup> Credit, saw James  
Wiley - heard in Toronto, old mill <sup>at</sup> Hartwick  
of Duffin Creek - was nearly dead. went out  
at 8. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. - Miles 48,  
Hwy <sup>4</sup> 1.50 - <sup>4</sup> Ry fare <sup>4</sup> 2.60 - <sup>4</sup> dinner <sup>4</sup> 25. - 4.35 96.

Saturday, 5, Sep: 1894. -

at Hamilton. - Dick Scoffe, impertinent and threatening because not allowed to go and fish on Paddy O'Hand's licensed ground. - talked something about robbery - heard from H. C. - that Tyson and Connor had a net they brought up from Grimsby - belonging to old Peter McBridey - that they had sent him word to come up for it - it had peculiar lead to it - Stone - thence to the Beach met Tyson near Ry Bridge - Stoney Creek Road - demanded the net from him. - he refused to give it up. - told me to wait until he came back from Grays, road down with me to Culps - run in there - remained inside for a few moments came to the door with Culp - and shouted to me he would not give up the net, I replied I would now take my cause in the matter. - Went on the reel where I found the net. Knew it by the leads - sent my son for John Connor, and went myself for Squire Van Wagner, to come down with me while I seized the net - the Squire came with me, and I had the net taken off the reel, and took it away. - Tyson told me in a Bohemian manner, in first instance he had the net, but would not give it up to me.

that he got it to fish on shares. —  
 He also said while the net was being  
 taken off the reel - that if the net was  
 given to him instead of being given to Jas;  
 Connor - by Paddy McBridey - he would not  
 give it up. — Got the net and took it  
 home - Squire Van Wagner - remarked when  
 parting with me that if he had not been  
 present - it appeared to him there would  
 be a row! — thence up the beach to  
 see Alex. Rolla - in going up beach  
 called Jack Laaffe out of David  
 Armstrongs - his first reply he supposed  
 I was going to starve them - I told him to  
 shut up what was the matter, when  
 his Spanish and Irish got up, and he  
 threatened - same as his brother did Tom  
 and in the Hamilton Market, and  
 about my allowing Rolla to fish on  
 Paddy Handy ground, went on up Beach  
 saw Rolla, and fixed rent of his li-  
 cense at 12<sup>4</sup> for season - got two Sal-  
 trout from him went out at 2. p.m.  
 came in at 6.30 p.m. Mils 24.  
 44 B - 3.00<sup>4</sup>, Edward with me. —



Monday, 7. Sept 1874.

at Winnipeg, to see Paddy Hand - got 12 fish from him - Johnny had not set out - told Johnny and Paddy they would have to look closely after their licensed ground themselves - and keep off trespassers - and seize their nets - they had power to do so under Section 13. of the Fishing Act - sent five fish to Ottawa. to Mr. Whitcher, paid \$1. Carriage on them, went out at 5.30, a.m. came in at 12. noon - miles about 32. \$4 B. 3.00. - - - came home by the Boch heard a good deal about Jack and Dick Laaffe - abuse. - - -

Tuesday, 8. Sept 1874. -

Heard from Jon<sup>n</sup> Borey - "privately?" that Dick Laaffe - had asked and urged him to sign a petition agt J. W. Kerr, to get him out, because he would not be allowed to fish on and within Paddy Hands licensed limits. - Dick has applied for no license at all this year. - Jon<sup>n</sup> also said Elliott Harris was leader in the petition and so was P. D. Bates - bought a piece of sturgeon from Bates. - - -

Wednesday, 9. Sept 1874. - - -

In town, got 2 wh. from P. D. Bates, 45. - - - Philo, commenced by asking me what I was doing about fishing on Paddy Hands ground, I replied I had no control over it - Paddy had all the control there. - Bates then told me Paddy owed him \$60. - and he wanted him to give him fish - but he would not do so. - - - Bates then said it was not fair for John Davis to get all the Ontario white fish. I replied I had nothing to do with that. If Dick Laaffe wanted to fish for wh. fish, there was plenty of room to fish without trespassing on Paddy.



and that he had not applied to me this year yet for a license to fish anywhere in S. Ontario, except what Bates himself heard Dick say on last Saturday. -

I replied to something Bates said, - that I understood Dick Laaffe, - had been running round the beach endeavouring to induce other fishermen to sign a petition against me. - Bates replied they had no influence, but if he could not get Ontario wh. fish, he would himself get up a petition, and get men of influence to sign it. - - -

I replied why dont you go down - see Johnny Stand - he might give you his fish - although it is no business of mine, and at the same time that I do not wish to interfere - if you apply a day - I will go down with you, - Bates replied it would be no use - but John Whitmore his partner, being intimately acquainted with him - would go down with me. - if I would go with him - I replied I would do so. - a discuss<sup>n</sup> then continued - Bates saying he would give 20¢ a piece for all white fish caught with legal sized gill nets -

Bates said he did not feel he was well treated - by Davis getting all their fish some days upwards of 400, while he could not get a fish - I told Bates it was all his own fault, for he never tried himself to get them, - and if Dick and Jack Laaffe applied for and paid their license fee - there was plenty of place between the fifty and Monte where they could fish. - But when I enquired last spring of Jack if

he was going to fish Salmon trout, or white fish gill nets this year, his reply was. No! It did not pay! - that Dick had some nets - Bate told me Dick had nets - I replied why does he not apply for a license if he wants to fish - I have been 20 times out to Oak this season and he has never yet applied to me for a license to fish in Ontario. -

Met Dan McGurne - who told me P. D. Bate wanted him last Saturday to sign a petition about me about Paddy Hands - ground - but he declined to do so. - upon which Bate told him. Ken James you - that is the reason. Dan said no, that is not the reason. - - -

Answered Bate's letter. - - -  
paid postage up to this 11. day of Sept., not yet <sup>4</sup> paid for. 36.

Mr Miller - fishery Quaker from Owen Sound called to see me. - this 11. Sept., to discuss fishery matters - his brother Alexander Miller of Ancaster - was with me. - - -

Sent for John Proudfoot's license - corrected the copy. - - -  
John W. Kerr  
J. W. Kerr

As Threshing done -  
67 of Spring Wheat  
16 of Fall Wheat  
176 of Barley  
295 of Oats

As		\$	¢
83 at 4¢		3,32	
176 at 3¢		5,28	
295 at 2¢		5,90	
		\$	14,50¢

## Notice . . .

The <sup>Boat</sup> fishermen on B. Beach, who have not yet applied for, nor taken out a <sup>Boat</sup> license to fish gill nets in the waters of L. Ontario, off B. Beach during this current season; are now requested to make immediate application for the same to the undersigned - pay in the annual license fee, when the license will be sent for to Ottawa - without delay . . . .

Fishermen ought to apply to me at once, and not run risks any longer.  
 Montreal - Hamilton, ( John W. Kerr  
 10. September 1874. - J. O. Guesse.

My dear Sir.

Will you be pleased to send me your licensed fee, \$5 dollars for this current year. Do this at once and oblige

Yours truly,  
 John W. Kerr  
 J. O.

Mr Thomas Joice,  
 Fisherman,  
 Montreal, Onto.

Hamilton, Onto.  
 15. Sep 1874.

P.S. Will you take the ground in L. O. this year - from the Canal to the Beach - please answer.

Yrs Vn.  
 John W. Kerr

"Monday Morning."

My dear Sir,

As I want a few large wh: fish, for Ottawa - will be down at your place on Wednesday morning next. - - -

I had a letter from the fishery department on Saturday last respecting Roller-fishing on your ground, it is all right.

It is now circulated - that you and your brother are fishing small sized illegal wh: fish gill nets, - and that you fish on Sunday. - So Paddy - my friend - you must be careful. - put out the trout net, and have some big wh: fish for me on Wednesday - don't fail me.  
Mr P. Hand.

Winona.

Yrs Truly  
John W. Kerr

14. Sep: 1874.

My dear Sir,

to send me

send me your licensed fee 5<sup>00</sup> dollars - for this current year. Do this at once, and oblige

Yrs Truly

John W. Kerr

J. W. Kerr

Hamilton, Onto

15. Sep: 1874.

Mr Wm Ingledew  
Fisherman  
Baronby



Sir,

12. Sep. 1874.

I have the honor to report for your info<sup>n</sup> that on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of August last, Mr. Patrick Stand a licensed fisherman in S. Ontario - at Winona, township of Saltfleet, complained to me in writing that Messrs. John Connor, and David Tyson, licensed fishermen in S. Ontario at B. Bay had set out wh. fish gill nets in front of Grimsby, within his licensed limits as described in the license given by the dept<sup>y</sup> to him (Stand) of the same, and soliciting my interference as local Overseer. - Stand not having given permission to them to fish there. . . .

On the receipt of this complaint I notified Messrs. Tyson and Connor thus! - You are complained of, for fishing within the licensed limits of Patrick Stand in S. Ontario - a fisherman, and for which offence, I am requested by him to take proceedings ag<sup>t</sup> you. -

I gave this notice to Patrick Stand to serve on the fishermen referred to, telling him to order them off his ground in a civil manner, which he did! - They left for B. Bay in a few days afterwards. . . .

It appears now, that when Connor and Tyson arrived at Grimsby - on the 26<sup>th</sup> of Aug<sup>t</sup> Mr. Peter McCurdy, of Grimsby, an old fisherman there - not this year licensed however! gave them 450 yards of wh. fish gill net of his to fish on shores, which in my own opinion still added to their previous offence. -

On leaving Grimsby - Tyson and Bonnor took this gill net away home to B. B. Beck with them, a distance of 12 miles, and fished it there. - all these particulars being communicated to me, I felt myself justified on the 5<sup>th</sup> instant, to get this wh. fish gill net into my possession. - - I cannot reconcile it in my mind that other fishermen can fish within the licensed limits of any licensed fisherman without his permission first had and obtained. "And that no licensed fisherman can fish the gill nets on shares of any man, who is not himself a licensed fisherman, under any pretence whatever, without the sanction of the department. -

The wh. fish gill net of McCleudy - being so fished by Bonnor and Tyson within certain limits situated in the waters of L. Ontario, where their own license for this current season did not permit them to fish: - - McCleudy's gill nets become forfeited - as no license was issued by the dept. at Ottawa to fish them by McCleudy this season. - - -

As this is the first case of this kind <sup>that</sup> I have brought before you: - Will you be pleased to instruct me in the case. - I may add - Capt. Hand - has no intention nor desire for to press the case further ag<sup>t</sup> Tyson and Bonnor for the trespass: - Mr. Byrie McCleudy wants to get back his gill net - which I don't feel disposed to let him have at present under the circumstances, just come to my knowledge. - -

"There is a good deal of this thing of unlicensed fishermen giving gill nets to

2

licensed fishermen to be fished for them on shores. - "I have stamped a good deal of it out?"

In this case for the better observance of the Fisheries Act, rules, regulations, and order in Council - it is necessary that an example should be made by you so as to prevent a similar occurrence happening in future. - I have therefore much pleasure in representing the foregoing particulars so that you may be able to see all these matters for yourself - before giving judgement. -

Hon Minister.

I have &c.

c. &c. &c.

Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
J. W.

Wednesday, 16, Sep: 1874,  
at Winona - and B: Beach - found all ok,  
saw John and Matimes Corey - they have no  
money yet - went out at 4. a. m. came in  
at 12. Noon - these to Hamilton sent two  
baskets of peaches to Mr. W: J: W. Ottawa  
paid \$1. thereon express charges, miles 32,  
\$4 Wagon <sup>\$4</sup> 3.00 - warned Paddy Stand agt  
fishing on Sunday - and to fish legal gill  
nets in all instances - also ascertained  
from him that there was no blow on the  
Lake the day Connor and Tyson returned to  
the Beach from Quincy.

Private

My dear Sir,

Yours received - although you apply in behalf of your friend - you do not say; whether Hartick is dead or alive - please let me hear from you at once - and let me know in which state he may be found before action is taken.

Yrs Sincerely  
John W. Kerr

J. A. G. G. G.  
Hamilton, Ont.

19. Sep: 1874.

Mr W Long,  
Operator  
G. I. Railway -  
Duffin Creek.

19. September 1874. -

My dear Wilmot,

Will you be pleased to send me one of your pails - that you use to distribute Salmon fry. - -

I want it for a pattern to get a new one made, as I mean to transfer and distribute fry of all kinds hereafter into waters of my district where few fish, if any at all are now to be found. - -

Please send it to my address - by Express. -

and oblige,

Yrs Sincerely,

Sam Wilmot Esq  
New Castle,

John W. Kerr  
J. A. G. G. G.

Ontario,

Postages 25.



My dear friend,

Many thanks for your timely warning. -- Salt is not, and never in my division. -- I only went there where ordered see Mr. Griffith, Brantford, is business for Grand River and tributaries. -- I have apprised the dept - Ottawa. -- Sent Mr. W. J. White - Commissioner - a copy of your letter, I will be up and bring Griffith with me on Monday next, please have a memorandum of what the matter is for me.

Yours M. Simon

Naturally  
S. H. K. R.

25. Sep. 1874

Wednesday 23. Sep. 1874.

at Winona to enquire about Byer McLeurdeys gill net. ascertained there was no blow the day before and Byson took up gill nets. -- got 14 fish on a lot of boat sent ten of them to Ottawa, sent for W. J. White, and for Jos. Bausch - Express charges <sup>4</sup> 1.75, 4 and By 3.00 - went out at 5. a.m. came in 3. p.m. miles 36. --

Sir.

25. September 1874.

I have the honor to submit for your information the copy of a letter I received this day from Mr. Simons a gentleman, resident in Galt.

I will send a copy of this letter to Mr. Henry Griffith - the Quaker of the Grand River - resident at Brantford, and will ask him to meet me at Galt on Monday morning next, and ascertain for you what they complain of; remedy the evil, and report to you the result. -

If this course will meet your approbation - please telegraph me.

The Hon. Minister I have &c.

&c. &c. &c.

Ottawa,

John W. Kerr  
O. C.

private,  
My dear Griffith -

Please find copy of letter herewith received by me to-day. If you will be so good as to meet me at Harrisburg on Monday morning next, by 9 o'clock train from here, I will go with you to Galt & see what is the matter there.

I have in the mean time sent a copy of letter to Ottawa, and informed them of my doing so with you.

Yours sincerely  
John W. Kerr  
O. C.

Henry Griffith Esq.  
O. C.  
Brantford

25. Sep 1874.

W. G. Whitchee,  
 Esq. Dept -  
 Ottawa.

25. September 1874.-

What distance from water edge  
 is claimed and fixed by the  
 Department, for licenses, and for  
 fishing purposes on Bay, and on Lake Ontario,  
 on Bay Beach. -- Is wanted to put on, here  
 map-making for Crown Land department,  
 at Toronto. - Answer!

John W. Kerr.

John W. Kerr,  
 Hamilton.

25. Sep: 1874.

One chain reserve from  
 water edge. ---

W. G. Whitchee

Communicated the same to Messrs <sup>3</sup>/<sub>3</sub>  
 Brownjohn and Biggs, on the morning  
 of the 26<sup>th</sup> September - gave them the  
 telegraph and answer as above.

Hamilton - Onto.

26. Sept 1874. =

John W. Kerr,  
 Esq. Answer.

My dear Sir,

on my return this evening, I received telegram from Mr. Whitchee - of which please find copy -

Chicago, 28. Sep. 1874.

J. W. Kerr, "Meet and confer with Griffith Department wants fish ways along Grand River and saw dust and mill rubbish stopped - show this to Griffith and assist him?" -

W. J. Whitchee

So that you will perceive, so far as we have gone to-day, we have acted right - push ahead, and on your return, I shall run up and assist you, with Wilby, Norantford and Paris dams. I have also written to Adam A. Davis, Secretary of LaRue Navigation Company - York, about the fish ways on the dams down the River. -

Yrs Sincerely

John W. Kerr

J. W. Kerr

28. Sep. 1874. -

Henry Griffith Esq  
J. W. Whitchee  
Norantford.



My dear Sir

Will you be so good as to let me know if the Grand River Company, intend putting in any fish-ways in the dams this season in obedience to the notices served on by me from the fishery dept Ottawa; also please state if fish could or did ascend the Grand River, this season by any other means or way, and what way that was! -

My attention has this day been again called to fish ways in the Grand River dams and the same sent let therein from the Mills by the dept at Ottawa. - And folt people are petitioning for them and about them - please find blank notices herewith, please put them up, and send me to Mount Steady for one. - How was the fishing this year, please excuse me for being so inquisitive and believe me with kind regards, -

Yrs sincerely,

John W. Kerr

St. Omer

29. Sep. 1874,

Adam A. Davis Esq  
York,  
On the Grand River

# Sunday 27. September 1874.

at B. beach - found all correct except Duncan McGilivray, who went out in Lake Ontario - in front of, and on Dr. Fitch's ground and fished up a small piece of gill net, came up just as he had done so. - "Reprimanded him for doing so" - and told him the consequence if he repeated the offence. - went out at 4. a.m., came in at 11. a.m., miles 20. 144 W<sub>3</sub> 2.50. Edward was with me. ---

# Monday 28. Sept. 1874,

at Jolt - inspected the fish-way in dam at Jolt, which is in a wretched condition - also examined the Saw Mill and J. Scott's establishment on Mill Creek - went there with Henry Griffith - the Oversee - Brantford - who served notices on the respective parties, went out at 8. a.m., came in at 6. p.m. - miles 65. , Railway fare #2.10, dinner 40, 144 W<sub>3</sub> 1.50. ---

# Wednesday 30. September 1874,

at Weymouth, and B. beach, - found all regular - went to get P. Stand to set his last net on Monday evening next to catch large Wh. fish - for to exhibit at the beer-trail fair - the following day (Tuesday) went out at 5. a.m. Came in at 11.30. a.m. - miles 30. 144 W<sub>3</sub> 2.50. Breakfast 30. ---

Monday -- 5. October 1874, --

At Weynora - Lake Ontario - got 12 large white fish from Paddy Stand to exhibit at the Central Show fair of Hamilton on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> of October - went out at 5 a.m. came in at 1 p.m. - Miles 28. - Horse & W<sup>g</sup> \$3. - - Home by Burlington Beach, ---

Tuesday 6. October 1874. - -

At Weynora - and got 10 large white fish from Paddy and John Stand to exhibit at the Central Show fair - went out at 5 a.m. came in at 12.30 p.m. - Miles 26. - Horse & W<sup>g</sup> \$3.00 - thence to Hamilton, W.

Wednesday 7. October 1874. -

At Weynora - thence to the Crystal Palace with White fish (22), Salmon trout (3), Herring (12) Lake Ontario fish - Halibut, Mackerel, Cod, and mackerel - Salt Water fish of the Dominion of Canada. - went out at 5 a.m. came in at 6 p.m. - Miles 36, Horse & W<sup>g</sup> \$3.50 - entered, the fish - John Davis provided all the fish but the Wh. fish - the latter were procured by me. -

Thursday 8. October 1874. -

At Toronto, Port Union and Duffins Creek, - saw Mr. W. Hartwick - who is sick - about placing Mr. Linton and Ferguson to watch the Salmon in Duffins Creek - also spoke to Mr. Messers Smith and W. Long - on the same subject - went out at 8 a.m. came in at Toronto at 8.15 p.m. - thence by the small boat of Mr. Morris, - Ry fare to Toronto 1.30, dinner 25¢ Ry fare to Duffins Creek and back to Toronto 1.50 - Tea and bed 50¢ Boat to the Island 50¢. - - Miles 100.

My dear Wilbur,  
 "Private" -

Your long looked for letter about the pails, has at last arrived - and I thank you for your kind proposal - I want something that I can transport fry, eggs - young fish - hals, speckled trout &c. &c, from places they now frequent - to places where they are not at present to be found altho numerous in such places heretofore. -- What do you think of my project?

Mr. Whitcher, I am aware has been invited as the guest of the Long Pt Company - to duck shoot there this fall. (So have I!!!) - but he has not yet intimated to me, when he is coming. --

I intend to exhibit white fish at the Central Fair here tomorrow - have on hand 22 fish packed in ice and saw dust for the purpose. - Expect to get a few more tomorrow morning. - I hope the fisherman who caught the fish for me - will get a special prize for them; It is promised in all events! -

Much obliged for hint respecting Salmon. - Will start from here on Thursday morning next, poor Martick has been very sick - and from what I have heard, he will not be able to help me any more. - I will see him however, on Thursday or Friday - before I make a new appointment of guardians there. - I am in good health, and so is my wife and children I hope you - Mr. Wilbur, and family, enjoy the same blessing. -- for which I thank God. - Will send you a map of our prize wh' fish - that is to be. -

Yours very truly  
 and fraternally  
 John Wilbur  
 6. Oct 11/14.

Sam Wilbur dep. and  
 Blue Castle  
 Onto.



Friday - 9. October 1874, ---  
 \* At Toronto Island; - thence to the City, and home  
 went out at 6. a. m. came in at 12. (noon) miles  
 16. - Boat 50, Ry fare 1.30. --- Breakfast 25¢

My dear Sir,

As I instructed you this day, verbally<sup>23</sup> -  
 please place the Messrs Wm Ferguson and James Linton  
 Constables, to watch the Salmon in Duffin's Creek, imme-  
 diately. --- The story that you heard of a light be-  
 ing seen below the Railway Bridge at Jager  
 mill appears to be true, for Wm Long found fresh  
 burned wood there today, which goes to some  
 extent to confirm your statement. --- As you will  
 not be able to be about yourself, your instructions  
 to the watchmen will have to be given forcibly/  
 clear, and imperative regarding this public and  
 important duty, these men will be required to  
 vigilantly perform in protecting the Salmon this  
 fall in Duffin's Creek. ---

I think it most important for you to get  
 out a few printed notices, as you proposed  
 warning all persons against trespassing on  
 your land in the vicinity of the Creek, un-  
 der the penalty of being prosecuted, if they  
 are found there. --- It will have a good  
 and beneficial effect. ---

I will require a diary to be kept  
 of all the Salmon seen daily in the Creek by  
 Ferguson, &c, when they first come in, and when  
 they leave and go away, the same as you  
 kept last year, and previous years; and make  
 them report to you daily. - Have the mouth of  
 the Creek opened immediately, if it requires it. -  
 please report to me occasionally every in-  
 stant as it transpires. --- M. Moses Smith

and Wm Long, and the Miller - (Alice) will see it us. - -  
 I hope your health will so improve that you will  
 soon be able to be about again,

Yrs Truly,

John W. Brown  
 J. O.,

Hamilton, Ontario. -

7, October 1874,

Wm Hartwick Esq,  
 Duffin's Creek.

My dear Sir, ---

I am induced from the great  
 interest you have at all times taken in the protection  
 of the Salmon heretofore in the Rouge - to solicit your  
 kind offices <sup>again</sup> in this behalf during this fall --- and if  
 after you make an examination of the creek <sup>two branches</sup> for some  
 distance out towards Mackham you find any  
 evident marks of Salmon being in there to spawn.  
 I will at once place any reliable person  
 whom you recommend to watch and care them. -  
 or if you could spare the time yourself  
 to do so, it would give me infinite plea-  
 sure indeed, - Salmon have commenced  
 to enter Whitby's Creek. -

Please let me hear from you  
 immediately. - - -

Wm Brown Esq  
 J. O.

Post Union P. Office  
 Pickering - Onto

Yrs Respectfully  
 John W. Brown J. O.,  
 Hamilton, Onto

9, Oct; 1874,

My dear Sir.

8. October 1874. -

As agreed to, between you and I, this day -  
I wish you would on receipt of this, have the  
mouth of Miland Creek properly opened, so that  
Salmon may enter the creek at once whenever  
they come along for to spawn there. - - -

Go up and down the creek as far as Stelli-  
wells Mill - Kingston Road, in three or four days  
after the water commences to run out of the mouth  
of the creek into the Lake, and let me know then  
what <sup>the</sup> indications are. - - -

Yours truly  
Joseph Moon Esq  
Port Union, 3

Yrs Sincerely,  
John W. Kerr  
J. O. Oversee.

P.S. -

Please keep for me a diary of  
what you do daily in this matter, if you ob-  
serve any Salmon - note it for me - or birds -  
do the same. -

8. October 1874. -

Yrs &c.  
John W. Kerr  
J. O.

My dear Sir,

I received your letter a few days ago, enquiring if I received from you last May; two dollars for a license to fish hooks and lines in the Niagara River at Fort Erie - in the township of Bertie, during this current year. . . .

My reply is, that I did; and for which I acknowledged receipt at the time. . . .

I hope you enjoy yourself as usual in field sports, and fishing to your hearts content. &c. &c., making profitable returns. -

Believe me Very Sincerely Yours.

John W. Kerr  
J. W. Kerr

9. October 1874. -

Peter S. Hottle Esq  
Fort Erie.

P.S. Your license is good up to the 31<sup>st</sup> of December next. -

J. W. Kerr

My dear Sir,

14. October 1874.

I am just in receipt of your letter of 9. instant, applying for a license to fish in Lake Erie, in front of Lots No: 19, 20, and 21. Just Conception, Rainham - please send me the money at once, and I will apply for your license. - The money must be sent to Ottawa - before the license is obtained.

My kind regards to Mr. Culp, and your boys.

Yrs Truly

John W. Kerr

J. W. Kerr

Mr Isaac Culp.  
Rainham.



My dear Sir,

As Salmon ought to be in your Creek before this - Will you be pleased to examine and see if the mouth is open, with a free flow of water from it to the Lake... If not, please open it immediately... Go up the stream after you do this, - examine closely for fish and beds and report to me at once the result of your examination - Keep for me a diary of your daily duties in connection with the creek, for the information of the Department - Ottawa - Be very watchful night and day after you discover Salmon are in - because no doubt an effort will be made to kill them, if people find you not at your post... Your sons can help you occasionally - whenever you discover the Salmon are in the Creek spawning...

Please report instantly - that you make any discovery, and I will try to be on hand to assist you with any requirements you may need... My kind regards to you, Mr. and family...

Yours sincerely,

John W. Starr

J. Overfall,

9. Oct: 1874.

James Storey Esq.  
Whitby P. Office.

4 postage  
27

Sir,

10. October 1874. -

I have the honor to report for your information, that I had exhibited at the Central Fair, held here on Wednesday, and Thursday last 22 splendid white fish, averaging about eight pounds a piece. - Many persons, farmers, &c. from the country asserted that they never saw such large white fish before. - They were caught in Lake Ontario, near Eriessby, by Messrs. Patrick and John Hand, licensed fishermen, from whom I procured them for the purpose specified. - - -

Mr. John Davis, Fish-dealer here, gave at the same time for exhibition; one halibut, twelve mackerel, three salmon trout, twelve lake herring, six haddock, and six Cod fish, all fresh fish. - The fish were well and favourably received at the fair, but as no prize was set apart for fish; we received none. - The Globe, Mail, Spectator, and Times News-papers noticed our exhibition favourably. -

I attach for your information printed slips I cut from the papers. - - -

Will you be pleased to offer a prize to be competed for next year at the Provincial Fair - Ottawa - "For Dominion fish" and I will endeavour to have specimens of fish there that will reflect credit and respect for the Fishery Department, all over the Dominion.

Hon. Minister

To. To. To.

Ottawa,

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
O. O.

CANADIAN FISH.—Mr. Kerr, the Fishery Inspector, this afternoon put on exhibition in the Palace a splendid lot of prize Canadian fish, including halibut, cod, mackerel, white fish, herring and salmon trout. Finer fish could not be seen. Considerable credit is thus reflected upon Mr. Kerr and Mr. Davis, fish dealer, who assisted him in making the display.

"Immediate"  
 = = =

Sir,

15, October 1874,

I have the honor to report for your information that it is now approaching the time, when I usually heretofore visited the White fish gill net fishermen, situated between Port Ryerse, in the County of Norfolk, and Wardalls Creek, in the Township of Ramotham and County of St. John's. For the purpose of issuing licenses and collecting fees.

As the places referred to, now forms a portion of Mr. J. A. Backhouse's division on Lake Huron, - will you be pleased to draw his attention to it, or shall I finish up the work there myself - for the remainder of this current year, please reply to this. -

I Have &c  
 John W. Kerr  
 J. A.

Hon. Ministers  
 & & &  
 Ottawa.

P. S. - There is back rent due which will require to be looked after.

J. W. Kerr  
 J. A.

NO SPEARING IN BURLINGTON BAY, &c. -  
 No spearing for herring or any other kind of fish will be permitted in Burlington Bay or Dundas Marsh next November, or at any future time. Any gill nets found set therein will be seized and confiscated. Burlington Bay being found to be the great nursery for Lake Ontario, J. W. Kerr, the inspector of fisheries, is determined to rigidly enforce the fishery laws, rules, regulations and orders in Council with respect to the said Burlington Bay. Angling and trolling for pike, bass &c., was never better in the Bay than it has been during the fishing season, now about closing therein for the year 1874. Thanks to the overseer of fisheries for his attention thereto.

In the

Sir,

15, October 1874.

I have the honor to send you my account and diary for quarter ending 30 day of September 1874, as follows:

1. Voucher.	- To J. W. Kerr - Exp. Refs. &c.	77.45.
2. do	" J. W. Kerr, Office Rent.	7.20.
3. do	" J. W. Kerr Stationery	5.00.
		1.51
	Total	\$ 91.16

Hon: Minister,  
H. H.  
O Hana,

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

Mailed - 16. October 1874. - Joseph Gabriel  
License for Stations Nos. 1. and 16. Niagara River, -  
at Queenston Heights. - - paid \$8.00. J. W. Kerr.  
J. O.

X Tuesday 13. October 1874.  
at B. Heights, the B. Beach, and home - went  
out at 9, a.m. came in at 6. p.m. Miles 28.  
H & B: 2.50, dinner 50 Bed with me, toll  
and Horse feed 30¢



"Private"

My dear Snook. -

I received your letter in due time - and the day after in obedience to your wish I saw Mr John Stuart, in your behalf. - It was not however until this day that I succeeded in giving your business with him to your advantage. - After telling him every thing I could in your behalf - he promised me faithfully, that he would never do any thing to hurt nor harm you. -

I met Mr Stuart at the corner of King and James Streets, where he read your letter to me, and where the interview lasted for half an hour. - I would recommend you to send him a present of fish, a large mask = inonge, &c, and pay express charges thereon. -

I am sorry to hear fishing has been so bad. - I will write to J. A. Backhouse, in your behalf, keep your position, and don't give way to any man. - and obey the fishing laws &c, &c, &c. - You have three hauling grounds - Mr Harris has two, and Jackson has two; and Jas. Larose - where is the odds! just one in your favour. Remember me kindly to my friends - I hope your wife and children are well, believe me - Very sincerely your friend,

de W. Snook,

Fisherman,

Snook Point,

John W. Kent  
15. Oct. 1874.

Sir,

19, October 1874, --

In reply to your letter of the 17, instant, I have the honor to send you the following names of fishermen on Lake Erie, in the Counties of Huron, and St. Clair, who are indebted to the Fishery Department, Ottawa - the sums set opposite their names for Licenses issued to them for fishing White fish gill nets therein during the fall of the year 1873. -- referred to by me in a former communication. --

1. Mr. Patrick Layhe - Port Dover - fished in Lake Erie - at Port Ryerse - \$ 5.00
  2. Mr. Charles Schreine - Port Dover - fished in Lake Erie - at Woodhouse. - 10.00,
  3. Mr. Stone & Coy., Hanticoke - fished in Lake Erie - near the mouth of Hanticoke Creek - township of Walpole. - 5.00,
  4. Isaac Cates - Rainham - fished in Miller Bay - Lake Erie. - 3.00,
  5. Ambrose Floyd - Rainham - fished in Miller Bay - Lake Erie. - 2.00
  6. George Howard & Coy. - Hagersville - fished in Lake Erie. - at Peacock pt 6.00
- Total \$ 31.00

Hon. Ministers

H. H. H.

Ottawa,

I Have &c

John A. Kerr  
H. H.

Postage 25  
do 25, 50

"private?"

My dear Sir,

I am very desirous of hearing from you what the Salmon appearances in Duffins Creek have been, thus far. --

Have you seen any? -- Is Ferguson on his post, and does Linton and he do their duty honestly, and faithfully. It would be a good thing for one of them to go down occasionally in a boat and look round the mouth of the Creek,

My whole dependence centres in you this fall for the protection of the Salmon. My kind regards to you and family. --

Moses Smith Esq  
Duffins Creek. --

Yrs Sincerely  
John W Kerr  
20. Oct 1874.

Please tell Ferguson and Linton to keep a diary for me of all the fish they see and everything else. -- if anything occurs please telegraph for me.

20. Oct: 1874.

John W Kerr  
D. C.

#### CANADIAN SALMON.

A SALMON has properly four stages of existence. The first is a "parr," a small bright-looking fish, four or five inches long, with dark-coloured bars across the sides, and a row of red spots. It is always found in the fresh water, looks something like a trout, and will take a fly or bait eagerly. The second stage is when it puts on the silvery coat previous to going to sea for the first time; it is then called a "smolt," and is from six to eight inches long, still living in the river where it was hatched. In the third stage, after its return from the sea to its native river, it is called a "grilse," and weighs from three to six pounds. It can be distinguished from a salmon, even of the same size, by its forked tail (that of the salmon being square) and the slight adhesion of the scales. The grilse is wonderfully active spirited, and will often give as much play as a salmon of three times his size. After the second visit of the fish to the sea he returns a salmon, mature, brilliant, and vigorous, and increases in weight every time he revisits the ocean, where most of his food is found, consisting of small fish and crustacea.

X Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1874. -

At B: Bel. Dan. McGlynn - paid me 3. on acct of  
Seine hauling station No. 11, in Lake Ontario, there  
went up as far as the canal - saw Mr. Waddell,  
who wants to sell her lot, went out at 9. a.m.  
came home at 5. p.m. Miles 26. - St. B. 3.00¢. -

X Sunday, 24. Oct 1874. -

At Mc Jags Inlet - all regular, went out  
at 3. p.m. came in at 5. p.m. - Miles 4. -  
St. B. 1.00¢.

X Monday 26. October 1874. -

At Springfield - on the River Credit - Inspected  
the Mills - Saw mill - found it in a very  
fair Condition - so far as saw dust is con-  
cerned, examined the stream at the Bridge  
saw several small Salmon fry there -  
went out at 8. a.m. came in at 4.30.  
p.m. - Miles 78 - By fare 95. St. B. 2.50.  
dinner 50. - - - 95¢ By fare back home. -

On Oct 24 of the  
boy - saw a man - saw a  
in the water - the man had a  
spoon - it was a  
into the water -  
the man - the  
24 of Oct -



X Tuesday 27. October 1874. -

At Winona - to see Pat. Hurd - joined all regulars, went thence to Saltfleet, to see the Council there about the Bridge at Albion Hill - waited for the other members of Barton Council - none other coming but myself, laid the matter before Saltfleet Council - went out at 6. a.m. came in 4.15 p.m. miles 28. H & B <sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2.50 dinner and breakfast 50.

X Friday 30. October 1874. -

at Bronte, to see Tom Joyce, and Billy Engleau, - no money - went out at 8. a.m. came in at 4.30. p.m. - miles - H & B <sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1.50 dinner 25. Reg gave 80. -

X Monday, 2. Nov: 1874. -

At Brantford, to see Mr. Henry Griffith about fish-ways in the dam of the Grand River. inspected the dam at Brantford. put in there by the Corporation - conferred with Mr. Griffith on the subject of dams. went out at 8. a.m. came in at 6. p.m. - miles 46. Reg gave \$1.904 - dinner 25, H. B. <sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1.50. -

"private"

My dear Wilmot -

Will you be pleased to send me the Gin Pails - I only require a pattern to get two made for myself, when I will return yours. I exhibited the White fish - then gave them back again to the fisherman from whom I bought them in the first instance, when he sold them over again. - - - they were soft after two days being on exhibition, and three days caught before being put there, to give them away, or send you away - Besides no price was given for them - for the simple reason! - that no preparation was made before hand to do so! - It is mighty hard, expensive, and very discouraging for to take a thing of this kind in hand, and then be sadly disappointed at the result. - However, I shall try again! and again! He. He, until I carry my object triumphantly! - No surrender - never! - The first balance came into Dullin Creek on the 21<sup>st</sup> inst.

I shall go down there on Monday - believe me very truly and gratefully

Sam Wilmot Esq

New Castle, Ont.

Yours

John W. Kerr

31, Oct: 1874,

P.S. - I hope your expectations in the Salmon Rush to your Creek this fall have been fully realized -

J. W. Kerr

My dear Sir,

Your two letters received - many thanks for the good intelligence you last contain about Salmon being in the mouth of the Creek. - Will try and get down this week and prosecute the two persons you allude to for spearing, please take a run up the Creek and you ought to find Salmon above. -

We are all well here. - My/Kind regards to you, Mrs Storey and the boys. -

Yours very sincerely,

James Storey Esq  
Guardian,

John W Kerr

H. A.

Whittier. -

3. Nov: 1874.

Please keep mouth open - and a diary of what you see daily.

J. W. Kerr

Tuesday. 3. Nov: 1874. -

at B. Beach - all regular. - went out at 9. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. hills about 26. A & B, 2.50 dinner 25¢.

3. Nov: 1874

My dear Sir,

I saw Mr. Pappas today who informed me that he would write immediately to the occupants of the Mill at Paris - owned by the heirs of the late Archibald Kerr . . . All you will have to do there, is to produce to them your model point out to them where you think the most fit and proper place for the fishway <sup>should be</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>at</sup> the dam, they will obey your orders and put it there accordingly. . . .

I believe, and I think you will <sup>at once</sup> agree with me, that it will be better to have no portion of the timber of the fishway come above the surface of the apron of the dam, for any <sup>small</sup> plank or piece placed above the surface of the apron - will be sure to be carried away by freshets. . . .

I think this fishway <sup>at Paris</sup> might be made  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet deep and ~~run~~ <sup>run</sup> wall down into the water at the bottom or lower end, so that fish when ascending will have no difficulty in finding the current <sup>caused by water</sup> passing and flowing there through. -

If you wish, and you notify me, I will run up, any day you appoint after Thursday - and confer with you and the Lessees of Kerr <sup>Mill & dam</sup> on the fishway. -

Yrs sincerely  
John W. Kerr  
S. R.

Henry Pitt  
26 Bedford  
Orsantford,



X Wednesday, <sup>4</sup>3, Nov: 1874. -  
 At Port Credit - Toronto, Island - Rouge -  
 Duffin Creek, Lyons Creek, and Whittier. - back  
 again to Duffin Creek, and down the creek below  
 John Beck. - found <sup>Wm</sup> Ferguson at his post, and  
 no depredations reported - stopped at Mr. Smith's -  
 during night - being invited to sleep there. - - -  
 went out at 8. A. M. came in at 9.30. Miles 79 -  
 Ry fare \$2.30 & 54¢ B. 2.50. - dinner, tea and bed 75. -  
 saw Mr. James Storey, received verbal report of  
 the Salmon - mouth of Lyons Creek. - also report  
 from Joe Moon, regarding Island Creek, and  
 the Rouge - and Duffin, Creek - from Moss Smith -  
 and <sup>Wm</sup> Ferguson - Heard with regret of  
 Mr. William Martick's - death and Burial on  
 last Tuesday - he died on Sunday morning  
 about 1.30. A. M. - found Gen. March  
 fishing for White fish at Port Union. -

X Thursday, 5, Nov: 1874.  
 At Duffin Creek - went down stream ex-  
 amined beds - up again - saw Linton at  
 Station - gave some orders to him - placed  
 Moss Smith in charge vice Martick, deceased,  
 thence to Pt. Union - Conferred with - Moon - Gen.  
 H. thence on to Toronto - went on home to  
 Hamilton - Went out at 6. A. M. came in  
 at 5.30. P. M. - Miles 68. - Ry fare 75. - Toronto  
 Home \$1.30 & breakfast and dinner 50¢. -

A. A. Davis Esq<sup>r</sup>  
 Secy: G. R. H. Coy  
 New York.

My dear Sir:

Within a few days past, I have again had my attention called by the fishery department, to the fact that the Grand River Navigation Company have not yet complied with the law, in building fishways in their dams of the Grand River.

Will you be pleased to let me know if after you receive the notices from me you laid the matter before your Board of Directors with the result. Also, if pending the construction of these fishways - you have had the waste gates of the locks raised occasionally so as to permit the fish to ascend the river freely. - Petitions have been sent to Ottawa complaining of your dams, and every body else connected with them - Jett, and Paris, and Brantford and Glenora are up with daggers drawn against your Company, and myself in particular. - Please let me have from you a brief letter of things, as they really are, that I may lay the same before the Hon. the Minister of Marine and Fisheries - Ottawa.

With kind regards, - Yours Very Truly.

5. Nov. 1874.

John W. H. H.  
 J. W. H.

My dear Sir,

If you have not already done so, if the mouth of the Creek has closed up again - please open it, so that a good rush of water may rapidly flow therefrom. ---

Please send me immediately the names of the boys who were spearing, and had the fish, also the names of the witnesses who can prove against them, so that I may report to Head Squatter. --- The Salmon have nearly all left Duffins Creek, but I expect another run of Salmon there, and in your Creek, in a few days - Watch the heads well at the mouth of the Creek - and take another trip up creek, above Kingston Road - please examine the rapids in front of Woods old place - at the bend of the Creek, below Railway Bridge. ---

My kind respects to all, and believe

Very truly and sincerely  
Yours

me  
James Stacey Esq.  
T. Guardian  
Lyons Creek.

John W. Kerr  
T. O.

5. Nov: 1874.

My dear Moon. -

Will you be pleased to take a run up the Hiland creek as far as the Kingston road, and let me hear from you, what you will see - Open the mouth of the creek and keep it open. - Just step up yourself, and see if there is any foundation for the report of two Salmon beds - being below Maxwells Mill - See the Squire Vanhorn, and Wm. Cowan Esqrs J. P. - and consult them on the result, if you find from personal observation that the report about the beds are well founded. - - -

Get a good fish from Levi Marsh, and give it to the Station Master for me. - and get two good ones, and send them to Mr. Moses Smith - Miller - Duffins Creek - from me. - I got home nicely, having changed from the Freight to Express at Scarborough. -

Joseph Moon Esq  
Port Union,

Very truly & sincerely,

John W. Kerr.  
S. Box 1874.

Forinate - I will be down some day next week again. J. W. Kerr



Moses Smith Esq  
Duffins Creek. ---

My dear Sir,

On my arrival at Port Union - it blew so fresh - that the white fish gill nets could not be lifted nor fished up, hence the reason why! I could not send you the couple (of) white fish. ---

I shall endeavour to hunt up just such a substantial small boat to hold two persons, as will suit your Creek. ---

Will you be pleased to get Syntou to run down to the mouth of the creek, and view how matters look there. - Mr. Hartick's man would likely go with him: - And have them open the mouth wide enough to cause a good rush of water out. --- If they do this early in the day, during this stormy weather, and go back there again at night secretly, and watch all night, taking care to keep under cover until after day light, I believe Syntou will be successful in catching one or more offenders, catching salmon, coming in or going out. --- We shall have another run after the rain of yesterday, will be down again next week. ---

My kind regards to Mr. Smith and all the members of your family. - Believe me Very sincerely yours,  
5. Mos: 1874. -

John W Kent

P.S. -

Whatever night Linton watches at the mouth, Ferguson will have to do the same up all night, about the Railway and Mill. - An accurate <sup>and</sup> certified by each before me of all the fish seen from time to time, since the first two fish came in, until the last fish will have left the Creek, will be required after the season expires - to be sent to Ottawa, also the names, and the language heard, used by Linton and Ferguson, when on guard by John Peck and others, &c. &c.

Yrs J. W. Kerr

P.S. - or if Linton should see anything suspicious and be concealed near Jim Peck's house - he might drop upon him in his dirt.

Yrs J. W. Kerr

Please keep Ferguson and Linton on the alert.

J. W. Kerr

My dear Sir, 12. Dec: 1874,

Many thanks for your last letter - give the supposed weight of each salmon caught, - you saw - and the number of beds you found - and when you receive this - please go up and down and examine them again - they and find more beds, and more salmon - a second run should be in now. - Yours truly,

In Jas J. Wilcox  
P. O. Credit,

John W. Kerr  
P. O.

Please give me the names of those three boys - and the names of the men who had the red traps at Hall's dam - do this - when you write to me again -

Yrs Truly

John W. Kerr P. O.

Sir.

5, November 1874. -

I beg most respectfully to apply to you for the usual printed notices, so as to have them served on the undermentioned persons, causing them to put fishways in the following dams situated in the Grand River. - The same being in the County of Brantford. - - -

1. A dam at Paris in the G. River, owned by the Heirs of the late Adolphus Kerr. Mr. Phipps, Barrister at Law - in this City is Agent for the Estate. - - -
2. The Wilkes dam in the G. River, near Brantford - Mr. Phipps - is the person who should be served. -

Hon. Ministers of  
Marine and Fisheries  
Ottawa.

I Have &c,  
John W. Starr  
J. O.

Postage <sup>2</sup> 30.

Set.

7. November 1874.

I beg most respectfully to report for your information - that William Starbuck Esq<sup>r</sup> J. P., an active and efficient Guardian of the Salmon River - Duffin Creek since the 18<sup>th</sup> day of May 1867 - when I first made the discovery, that three salmon were speared in that Creek and killed - the previous fall of the year 1866. - died last Sunday morning, the 1<sup>st</sup> day of November instant, about 1 o'clock, A. M., aged 72 years; and was interred in the Quakers Burial ground on Tuesday last, at Duffin Creek, Township of Pickering - in the South Riding of Ontario. -

Mr Starbuck, took a warm interest in the natural propagation of salmon in Duffin Creek, and always proved himself reliable, as individually, and personally interested in their protection, during the spawning season. -

Even this fall, during October, and since the 21<sup>st</sup> ultimo, he made two visits to the creek, examined it minutely, although suffering excruciating pain, and agony - from the complication of the diseases, with which he was afflicted, and labouring under at the time. -

If it is not against the rules of the Department. - I recommended a letter <sup>of sympathy</sup> to be written to the Widow of the deceased. - Mr Starbuck was an extensive Land Owner, and a Magistrate for the South Riding of Ontario, at the time of his death. -

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
J. W. K.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Ministers,

4. 1. 74.

A. Wainman



Sir,

7. Nov: 1874.

I have the honor to report for your information that I visited Duffin's Creek township of Pickering - in the South Riding of Ontario - last Wednesday night, and Thursday morning - found the Guardians Messrs. Ferguson and J. Linton, there at their posts. . . .

The show of Salmon at Duffin's Creek, this year is far in excess of the previous years, "although the water is very low" - both in large and small fish, and the more numerous quantity of each kind. . . .

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of October last, when I visited Duffin's Creek - to place the Guardians, in consequence of the ~~very~~ <sup>unusually</sup> serious illness at the time - "altho' I would not remove him" - I was obliged to place Mr. Moses Smith - Glouc Mill Proprietor - there as my first assistant Guardian, I am pleased to tell you, he has performed this duty faithfully - and I respectfully recommend him to be confirmed by you in this appointment, as he has always been our friend, deeply interested - participating in the protection of the Salmon in Duffin's Creek on which his Mill is situated. . . .

In consequence of the mouth of Duffin's Creek, - from Mr. Smith's Mill, and Railway Bridge, where the Salmon spawn - being by the windings of the stream, through the marsh - a distance of about four miles, - Will you be pleased to allow me to purchase a small boat - for the use of the Guardians there, and myself, so as to

aid and suppress Contraband of the Fishing  
act. . . .

I may here state, that the mouth of the  
Creek has to be repeatedly opened, so as to ad-  
mit the fish into the Creek, during the Salmon  
run each fall. . . .

All particulars will appear fully in  
my Annual Report - in due time for this current  
year. . . .

Hon. Minister  
He. He. He.  
O Mauna.

I Have &c.

Johell W. Kern  
D. O.

My dear Sir,

If you have not already  
gone up to the dam above Falls Mill - Springfield.  
do so on receipt of this note - examine the water  
closely under the dam in River Beddit - and report  
to me what you see - Also begin at the In-  
dian Village and examine for Salmon beds all  
the way up - have you caught any person  
putting the stone obstruction in the Creek. . . .

Please write me after you do what I  
here require of you. . . .

Be active and efficient and  
believe me -

Very Truly Yours  
Johell W. Kern  
D. O.

Mr Jas J. Wilcox  
D. O.  
Port Credit.

9. Nov. 1874.

Sir,

7, November 1874.

I have the honor to report for your information - that in consequence of "Spearing being entirely discontinued in B. Bay" - per your order, it will be necessary for me as heretofore, to have two or three persons and boats with me continually from the 15, of November, until about the 10, of December next, to enforce the law in this respect, should it be deemed necessary, and the emergency of the cases of contravention of the act, require that I should do so. - - -

As it is about the 15, of November the Herring generally make their appearance in B. Bay for to spawn - coming therein from L. Ontario. - This matter is respectfully submitted for your consideration and approval. - - -

I Have &amp;c,

John W. Kerr  
S.O.Hon: Ministers  
J. F. J.  
D. Mawla,

Monday, 9, Nov: 1874,

At Paris - saw Messrs Penman, Whitlam and Thompson - about putting fishways in the dam, there the two former agreed to do so immediately - Penman refused to comply with the law. - Henry Griffith of Brantford - Quebec met me there and went from Paris to Mudge Hollow inspected dam there, the proprietor promised to get the fishway in at once. - went out at 8. a. m. Came in at 6.15. p. m. - Miles 72. By fare \$2, dinner 35¢, H & B. 1.50,

"Private"

My dear Sir,

A petition was recently sent the Minister, by persons representing themselves as members of the fish and game Society of Galt - complaining of saw dust &c, being permitted to enter the waters of the Grand River.

Will you be pleased to inform me if this Society is now in existence or if it is defunct.

Our fishery laws as I believe them to be, were not intended to oppress mill owners so far as I understand the law in this case.

James Blaine Esq  
Galt, Onto,

Yours truly  
John W. Ross  
D. Oversee,  
Hamilton - Onto.  
9. Nov: 1874.

My dear Sir,

I recently heard, that two Salmon beds can be seen in the Rouge - below May - well Mill - perhaps you have been up, and seen them yourself. If not! You will be pleased to take a run up, and see if there is any truth in the report, and oblige

W. Bowman Esq  
Port Union,

Yours truly  
John W. Ross  
D. Oversee.  
9. Nov: 1874.



Sir,

10. Nov: 1874.

I have the honor for to report, that during the latter part of the month of October last, two young men named Walter and James Thompson, of Whitby, in the Township of Whitby and South Riding of Ontario - were found spearing in the water of Lyons Creek - a place set apart for the propagation of Salmon. When detected, - they were very saucy and impertinent to the person who communicated with them for their illegal acts.

Mr James Storey - the Guardian of Lyons Creek, report this case to me. - I shall I presume send them - they had no right nor authority to fish there whatever.

Hon: Minister,

I Have &c.

J. H. Storey

Friday, 13. Nov: 1874. -

At Toronto and the Islands. bought a boat from Bob Reynardson - for Dufferin Creek. - Saw George Spence - P. Agent - by Frank Rey who despatched it for me. - Boat, Oars, and Paddle \$26 - Rey gave 2.60 - Boat over to Island and back \$1.00 - dinner 40. - Mils 85. - 144 Bs: <sup>4</sup>1.50 - went out at 8. a.m. Came in at 6.30. p.m. -

Wednesday - 11, Nov: 1874, -  
 at B. beach - found all regular - went out at  
 10. a.m. came in 4.30. p.m. - Miles 24. <sup>#</sup> <sup>4</sup> <sup>1</sup> <sup>2</sup>  
 B. - 2.50, -

12, Nov: 1874, -  
 Wh: fish <sup>#1</sup> and Salmon Trout <sup>#</sup> <sup>4</sup> <sup>1</sup> <sup>2</sup> <sup>3.70</sup> <sup>#</sup> <sup>2</sup> <sup>1.55</sup> <sup>1.55</sup>  
 sent to S. P. Bauset. Obauna - for self, and the White

My dear Sir,

Many thanks for your letter of  
 the 9<sup>th</sup> instant. - Will you be pleased to let  
 me know the height of each dam at the apex,  
 in the Grand River, - and oblige

Yours very sincerely  
 John W. Kerr

Adam A. Davis Esq  
 Secretary - G. S. H. Coy  
 York,

J. W. Kerr

12, Nov: 1874,

My dear Sir,

I have been unable to get down  
 again this week, but then, I have implicit con-  
 fidence in you to see every thing done well  
 by Linton and Ferguson at night, and by you  
 and your people in day time. -

I get to Toronto, tomorrow morning to get  
 you a boat. I greatly fear from something pri-  
 vate I heard - that Jim Peck & boy - have made  
 havoc amongst the salmon - Has Linton  
 found out anything in this direction yet? -

My kind regards to all,

Yrs sincerely  
 John W. Kerr

J. W.

Moses Smith Esq  
 Duffin's Creek

12, Nov: 1874,

P.S. - When salmon stops - Linton and  
 Ferguson may stop also. - John W. Kerr  
 J. W.

My dear Sir

As notified you, in my last, I bought the boat, a pair of oars - rowlocks, and paddle - at Toronto today and shipped them to your address, at Duffins Creek, by the G. W. Railway. - -

Please send Linton or Ferguson to Shoal Point, on Monday next, to learn Messrs. Salsberry, Wright, George Clark, Wm. McLeod, and Thomas Mansfield that close season for White fish is between the 19<sup>th</sup> of November, and 1<sup>st</sup> of December next, and must be strictly observed by them. - -

They can fish up on the 19<sup>th</sup> of November, but they cannot set out again until the 1<sup>st</sup> of December. - - Ferguson understands it, he acted in a similar case for me before. - -

The boat after being used in the creek this fall, will require painting before being used again next spring. - be particular about Shoal Point, &c. &c. &c.

Moses Smith Esqr,  
Duffins Creek,

Yrs. sincerely  
John W. Kerr  
J. W.

13. Nov: 1874,

Express charge  
\$ 1.15

do. \$ 1.55

a dark lantern \$ 2.50  
Sperm Oil. 25¢

Postage 36¢

My dear Moon -

I have just heard that the Salmon heads seen in the Rouge were made by a man, and not by a Salmon. - so that report goes for nothing. - - Close season for White fish is between the 19<sup>th</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup> and the 1<sup>st</sup> of December next. - Will you be pleased to notify all concerned - particularly Gen<sup>l</sup>. Marsh - who after he lifts his White fish gill net on the 19<sup>th</sup>, must leave Port Union instantly for home - because the department and the law states white fish cannot be fished for, caught, nor killed, nor be in any person's possession, during this close season. - - I have never seen that dogger of fish yet! - Have you seen the Dutch men since? -

Anything in the Island Creek. -  
Believe me.

Yours truly  
John W. Kent  
N. S.  
15 Nov 1874.

My dear Sir -

Close season for White fish is between the 19<sup>th</sup> of November and the 1<sup>st</sup> of December next. During this close season you must not fish for, catch nor kill white fish. - Obey the law strictly in accordance with the Act, and believe me

Yours truly  
John W. Kent  
N. S.

Mr Francis Portwine  
Fisherman  
Scarborough

14 Nov 1874.



"Immediate"

My dear Sirs. -

Close season for White fish  
will be between the 19<sup>th</sup> of November, and the  
1<sup>st</sup> of December next. - - You, nor neither  
of you, must not fish for, catch, nor kill  
White fish, nor have them in your possession  
during this close season. -

Strictly obey the law, and believe  
me,

Messrs. Wm. Sugden  
and  
Thomas Joyce.

Fishermen. -

Wrote - Onto

Yours sincerely,

John W. Kerr

D.O.

14. Nov. 1874.

"Immediate"

My dear Sir,

Close season for White  
fish, is between the 19<sup>th</sup> of November, and the  
1<sup>st</sup> of December next, during which close sea-  
son; you cannot fish for, catch, nor kill  
White fish, nor have them in your possession. -

Please strictly obey this law. - -

Believe me Very truly yours,  
John W. Kerr

D.O.

14. Nov. 1874.

Mr Rich<sup>d</sup> Gilbert,

Fisherman.

Middleport - on G. W. Ry.

Jordan. - P. Office!

"Immediate"

My dear Sir,

Close season for White fish, will be between the 19<sup>th</sup> of November, and the 1<sup>st</sup> of December next, when you can neither fish for, catch, nor kill white fish, nor have them in your possession. -- Will you be pleased to strictly obey this law. --  
 Please Durham Esq Believe me - Yours truly,  
 -- Book  
 Finchley, Onto.,  
 J. O'Connell  
 14. Nov. 1874.

"Immediate"

My dear Sir,

Close season for White fish will be between the 19. November, and the 1<sup>st</sup> of December next, during which time, you cannot fish for, catch nor kill any white fish nor have them in your possession &c. --

Please obey this law, and apprise all others concerned. --

Kind of : please send me a return of all kinds of fish caught by you this season, and their market value. --

Abraham Probb Esq,  
 Fisherman  
 Plamerville,

Yours very truly,  
 J. O'Connell  
 J. O'Connell,  
 14. Nov. 1874. --

My dear Sir.

"Immediate"

Close season for white fish will be between the 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, and the 1<sup>st</sup> of December next - during which close time no persons can fish for, catch nor kill any white fish nor have them in your possession &c. &c. -

Please obey the law, and apprise all other concerned. - - -

My kind regards to all. -

Mr Peter Bath,  
Dalhousie,

Yours truly,  
John W. Kerr,

D. O. Angus

14. Nov. 1874.

"Immediate"

My dear Sir.

Close season for white fish - will be between the 19<sup>th</sup> of November, and the 1<sup>st</sup> of December next, during which close season - no white fish can be fished for, caught nor killed; nor shall any person have them in their possession. - - -

Please obey the law. -

Mr John Morley,  
Fisherman,  
Leslieville - P. Office,

Yours truly,  
John W. Kerr

D. O.

14. Nov. 1874.

X Saturday, 14, November 1874. -  
 at Lages, I let ~~thence~~ from ~~the~~ Lages - on to  
 the Bay - looking for gill nets. - I found  
 a duck net set in the marsh in front of  
 John Dyes. - Got it up, J. H. Corey - lifted it  
 into the Boat, got supper at Corey's and  
 warmed ourselves. - Heard report that  
 Bob Hall - Herring gill net was stolen the  
 previous night off his reel, went out at  
 2, p. m. Came in at 11, p. m. Miles about  
 20. - J. H. B. 1.50, Supper for three 75. -  
 J. H. Corey, and J. Kerr off 1. each.

"Immediate."

My dear Sir. -

Will you be so good as to  
 notify the fishermen at Port Bruce - Lake Erie,  
 that close season for White fish - will be between  
 the 19<sup>th</sup> of November and the 1<sup>st</sup> of December  
 next, during which, no persons shall fish  
 for, catch nor kill them. - nor have them  
 in their possession - Please notify them to  
 govern themselves accordingly. -

Yours fraternally  
 John W. Kerr

Captain,

Thomas Thompson,  
 Port Bruce.

J. W.  
 14. Nov. 1874.

Into

A. S. Will be up early in December to  
 get my return and have a talk with you  
 Yr.

John W. Kerr

J. W.



"Immediate"

My dear Sir.

The close season for White fish - will be between the 19. of November, and the 1st of December next - when it will be illegal for any person to buy sell or possess the same. -

Will you be pleased to govern yourself accordingly. -

And oblige Yours Truly,

Michael Doyle Esq.  
Fish Dealer  
F. M. 10

John W. Kerr,  
St. George  
14, Nov; 1874

Postage 30 ¢  
do 25 ¢

Monday - 16. Nov: 1874. -

At Winona - warned Pat; Hand about White fish close time. - - thence home, and to the bay, and B: beach - searched Sands bay - thence near canal for gill nets - did not find any. - went out at 6. a. m. came in at 8. p. m. - miles about 36. - At B: 3.00. - 12¢ Breakfast and supper 50. - - Frederick and Charles John Kerr in boat rowing me in bay - while I grappled all the time. ....



Tuesday, 17. Nov: 1874. -

at B: Heights to see Chris: Case, and Fred: Morrison - gave Morrison one dollar to hand a person who circulated he had paid spearing Joe for this season - to be returned to him. - Consulted with Chris: Case regarding person blowing about that they would spear. - Thence home to W<sup>m</sup> Jags met J. N. Corey - to Sands bay - the Clay wharf, - depot - and the Heights - saw a suspicious light near Desjardis Canal under Railway Embankment - saw the light 3 miles distance - went on up there - found a tramp who gave his name as George Parker - said he was a travelling linker - remonstrated with him for lighting a fire there - said he was cooking his supper - a little tea - a little beef. &c. J. N. Corey turned the dark lantern on him - he went off having just put out the fire. - He was a suspicious looking person - say about 35 years of age - found no nets. went out at 4. P. M. - came in at 11. P. M. Miles 30. - H & B: 2.50, - Boat, J. N. Corey \$1. J. Kerr \$1, Charles John Kerr \$1. -

Wednesday, 18. Nov: 1874. -

at the Heights - to see Ch<sup>r</sup>s Case, remained there in Confab with him for two hours - thence home - no appearance of any boats nor spearing lights - went out at 4. P. M. # 4 came in at 10. P. M. - Miles ~~30~~ 25. H & B 2.00, Charles J. Kerr \$1.00. -

Sir,

20, November 1874.

I have the honor to report for your information, that on last night about 9.30. p.m. - being out in my boat on B's Bay, I observed a spearing light in front of Mr George O. Second's - farm - of Barton - in the South Riding of Wentworth. - With two of my sons rowing - we made chase - when within 200 yards of the spearing boat - the parties therein put out the light - and paddled with all their might, through Harris's - Inlet - to the main land, in Saltfleet - and escaped - I close after their heels: was up to the boat about one minute after the persons decamped therefrom, and found therein - Light wood - a few pike, Sunfish, and Catfish, found a few in the sedge grass, where they had been thrown evidently with the view of saving the boat from seizure. In this, they signally failed, as I found sufficient fresh speared fish and light wood in the boat to warrant the seizure and confiscation of the same. - - -

I have my suspicions of who the offenders are. - Their names will come out in a few days, when I will further report to you. - - This is the first Contravention of the Act Committed, so far this fall. - I expect others to follow this case shortly, and I am prepared for them. -

Hon. Minister,

I Have &amp;c.

H. H. H.  
Ottawa,John W. Kerr  
J. O.



Wednesday, 19. Nov: 1874. -

At B. bay, Jags, Secords and Harris Inlet, Lands bay, - Clay Wharf, - the Heights; - see my report of 20. for particulars - was also on B. beach. - went out at 2. p. m. - came in at 1. A. m. - 20<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> instant, Miles 26 - Boat, \$4 W<sup>4</sup> 2.00, - Fred and Charles John Kerr boatmen \$1.25 each - for the night - they pull their boat well in every respect. - Chris: Case at the Heights - by appointment. -

Saturday, 21. Nov: 1874. - - -

On B. bay - from Jags Inlet across to G. H. Corey's, thence to Harveys point - Lands bay, Clay Wharf the depot, and the Heights - remained there for several hours thence into Canal. - Dundas Marsh, thence around the Heights Marsh grappled for nets - Chris: Case with me, went home by Clay wharf, and Lands bay grappled all the time - G. Kerr and Charles John Kerr with me all through, went out 3. p. m. came in at 4.30, A. m. - Miles 30. - \$4 B: 2.00, - gave Chris: Case #7. for Services rendered, and G. H. Corey - #5. for Services rendered. - found the name Alfred John Harris written on the boat I seized - see my report of the 20. November 1874. To the Hon: Minister, Fred and Charles John Kerr - one dollar each. - - -

**SPEARING IN BURLINGTON BAY.**—Mr. J. W. Kerr, Overseer of Fisheries, captured a boat last night with speared fish therein and light wood. The spearkers, who are farmers, resident in Saltfleet, fled, with the spear and light jack. It is a shame for the farmers to employ their time in catching such small pike, besides running the risk of being fined \$20 and costs. They have been warned repeatedly by this journal that if they are caught breaking the law they will have only themselves to blame hereafter.

**SPEARING IN THE BAY.**—Last night about 10:30 p.m., Mr. J. W. Kerr, Fishery Overseer, being on the bay in a boat with his crew, observed a jack-light in front of Secord's Inlet. He gave chase and on approaching the spearkers the light was put out by the offenders, who ran their boat to Elisha Harris's inlet, closely pursued by Mr. Kerr, and landed on Mr. Thomas Jones' side of the inlet. Although the spears and jack-light were not found in the boat, sufficient speared fish and lightwood were found therein to warrant the seizure and confiscation of the boat. The offenders, who made good their escape, are known. The boat is one of Mr. Aaron Fletcher's make, of Burlington Beach.

Monday 23, Nov: 1874. -

at the Straits - saw Chris: Case - who reported every thing all O.K. - no appearance of any person fishing, went out at 2.30 p.m. - came in at 8. p.m. - Miles. 14 - - St & W<sup>th</sup> 2.00, Rd: Kerr. 1. - examined Thais for Wh: fish.

Tuesday, 24, Nov: 1874. -

at J. W. Ry - depot - examined several barrels of fish - all trout - that came by J. W. Ry from Toronto - Collingwood being shipping port. & from the Port of that place - no white fish - was sold by Monday - helped agent - that Curtis wanted him to help white fish on the ship. for him, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 12. noon - Miles 12, St & W<sup>th</sup> 2.00, Rd: Kerr # 1. -

"Peruete?"

they do the Cause

I please find herewith my official letter - about catching and packing or selling White fish in snow during close season present time - Some fishermen - pretend innocently as it were - that provided they are not sold during close season - it is not illegal to catch them. - I am aware from another source that this is annually done at Collingwood - Mr J. S. Miller - I believe is the J.W. at Collingwood, If I write to, if Curtis be caught them at once,

J. R. Causey  
F. Dept.  
G. House,

Yours faithfully  
John W. Kerr  
J. S.

24. Nov: 1874

"Private"

Sir,

24. J806: 1874.

I have the honor to report for your information - that a merchant (Hamilton) of strict veracity - informed me to-day - that he has seen last fall - during close season - at Collingwood in a barn in rear of the Hotel - a pile of white fish in snow, nearly the barn full - afterwards sold all over the country - On last night 39 Barrels of fish arrived at Toronto, from Collingwood, - 12 Barrels that passed by the Express through this City today were Salmon Trout - for I examined them. - -

This circumstance confirms me of the truth of the merchant's statement - that the White fish caught with the ~~the~~ Salmon Trout, during the close season - have been piled up in snow at Collingwood. - I deem it my duty in the interest and protection of the White fish - fishery - to send you this information - as it was given to me.

Hon. Ministers  
H. H. H.  
Hawaii,

I have the  
John W. Kerr  
F. O.

X Wednesday 25. Nov: 1874.  
On B. bay, from Jagers Inlet - to the Height  
examined all over - found all regular. went  
out at 4. p.m. Came in at 2.30. am  
Beat H & B: 2.50. Fred & hauly John Kerr  
with me, grappled all suspected places  
in the Bay - no lts - and no speak-  
ing lights. - Miley 26.



My dear Sir, New York, Nov: 9<sup>th</sup> 1874.

In reply to yours of the 5<sup>th</sup> I can only say that we have not had a meeting of our Company for the last 3 months. - Mr. Molesworth, the Engineer for the Ontario Government, was up here about that time and promised to come back in a week, but has not returned yet. <sup>we are doing our best to get</sup> some assistance from the Ontario Government, and I don't yet know if we will succeed, unless we do, we cannot put in slides in the dams, as all our stock is now paid, that is available, and the money spent. - You can report this statement to the Hon: the Minister of Marine and Fisheries - and refer him to H. Thompson M.P. who is our President. -

J. W. Kerr Esq

Yours very truly,  
A. A. Davis  
Secy. St. H. Coy. -

X Thursday 26, Nov: 1874. -  
at the Heights - Chris: base - reported every-  
thing correct. - went out at 8. a.m., leaving  
Toronto Basin - for White fish - none arrived  
came in at 2. p.m. - Mile 14, H & B 2.50  
Fred Kerr with me all OK. -

X Friday 27, Nov: 1874. -  
at Heights - heard the Co's rattling on  
side of Boat in front of Canal - Chris:  
Case went out in duck skiff, but  
the boat fled, saw it go away.  
remained there for several hours  
went out at 4. p.m. Came in  
at 2. a.m., Mile about 14. -  
H & B 2.50. H & C J Kerr with  
me and Case. - - -



Sir,

24. Nov. 1874.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 30<sup>th</sup>, ultimo, referring to me for report, the copy of Petition from the Galt Fish and Game Association. -

In reply, I beg most respectfully to inform you, that I lately had it communicated to me by Mr. Leombie - resident of Galt - and the last President - that there is no such Association in existence, nor was there any such in existence, when the Petition referred to herein, was signed and addressed to you. - -

With reference to saw dust, from the James Blaines Mill, and other Saw Mills at Galt &c. entering the waters of the Grand River - there is no foundation for this statement. - -

I have also, now the honor to send you a return of the fishways upon certain Mill dams, on the Grand River, and its tributaries; by which you will please learn, - that both before and since the receipt of your telegram of the 28<sup>th</sup> of September last, which was before this Petition came into existence, efforts have been made to carry <sup>out</sup> your previous orders to have fishways built at once in the mill dams referred to, and I may here say; that Mr. Henry Griffith - the Local Officer - at Brantford, and I, have used our best endeavours to carry out your orders in this respect; While at the same time I am positive, and so it appears is Mr. Henry Griffith that the assertions contained in this Petition thus: "In consequence of the non-attendance of the proper officers, to the repeatedly expressed wishes of those interested, &c, &c. &c. &c. &c. except through the Department - Ottawa. - neither my attention, nor Mr. Griffith has been called to the Mill dams and fishways

in question...

You will please perceive that in almost all the dams, where it is practicable, efforts are made and being made to carry out and comply with the law and your instruction, regarding the construction of fishways in Grand River and its tributaries. . . .

But unfortunately the dams in the Grand River from Caledonia to Eudora, are the property of a Company; and not of mill owners, and this Company being bereft of the needed funds at present, are unable to carry into effect, the law, and your orders in this respect. . . . The letter of Mr. Adam A. Davis - the Secretary of this Company, will conclusively prove to you, their inability to erect fishways this year, in consequence of want of the necessary funds. . . . I hope you will observe nothing lacking on my part nor Mr. Griffiths - who proves himself an efficient officer - to carry to completion the fishways in the mill dams of the Grand River and tributaries. . . .

The petitioners overlook the fact, that where the water is very shallow, even with fishways in all the mill dams of the Grand River, it was an impossibility for fish to remain in Grand River at fall this season below the dam; but in the mill pond above the dam at fall, there is abundance of fish, supposed to have got there, through the mill race or flume and waste gates, and the former fishway - before it was altogether rendered comparatively useless. . . .

Under all the remaining mill dams - I can say, that fish have been this season in great abundance. . . . and during highwater in spring, they get up as far even to fall. - and even Mr. John Kays - the originator of this petition, whom

you have permitted to catch fish in the La Rivier,  
at Galt, to feed his milk, will not deny my asser-  
tion. . . .

Mr Penman, of Paris - peremptorily refused  
to put in a fishway this season in his <sup>mill</sup> dam  
he has been building a very extensive Woollen  
factory there this year, which may perhaps in  
some way account for his Contumacy. . . .

Mr James Belaine of Galt, having on three  
different occasions heretofore complied with the law,  
in building and rebuilding fishways in his  
mill dam at Galt, declines now to expend any  
more money in this respect - he even wrote -  
after he was noticed to do so, by Mr Griffith,  
that the Mayor of Galt, who signed the petition,  
and James Young Esq<sup>r</sup> M. P. do not wish  
him to expend money in a fishway, so  
sure to be carried away by heavy spring  
freshets, to which the La Rivier, is annually  
subject. . . .

I may here mention for your informa-  
tion, that on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September last, I  
visited Galt, and inspected the mill dam.  
Saw Mill &c, &c, there, in company with Mr  
Henry Griffith - H. O. Brantford - We saw this  
petition in Mr John Kays - Jeweller's shop, -  
and neither the Mayor's name - nor several  
other names now thereon were then signed  
to it. . . .

The remarks at the bottom are therefore  
uncalled for, so far as Mr Griffith is concerned,  
for I understand from him that he was twice  
in Galt, in discharge of his duty, before this peti-  
tion was got into existence. . . . Mr Griffith and I confer  
together - occasionally. . . .

Hon: Minister,  
H. O. Brantford  
O. H. W. =

I Have &c,  
John W. H. H. O.



My dear Sir. York, October 1874. -

In reply to your letter (Re) fishways in Grand River, I have to say that the company known as the, Slave = gation company has not put any slides on the dams, but the fish in high water in Spring time of the year can go sometimes over the dams and for weeks around them. - - I don't know that they can do this at Bald = donia, but they can at all the rest. - - -

I will attend to your Notices, the fishing with hooks and line this season was just rate, good Bass, and picked up to seven pounds weight. And the Country people caught many loads of mul let and suckers - there were some sturgeon. - -

I did not allow a net in the River the past year but once, while I was looking on myself, and then it was a water haul. - I am quite satisfied that the present company are not able to put in fishways in the dams, for at present there is one of them broken and there is not funds to repair it: - hoping you are quite well. - I am Yours truly. -

A. A. Davis. -

J. W. Kerr Esq<sup>r</sup> [  
Hamilton. -



Schedule  
of Mill Dams on Grand River

Locality . . . .	Whether Saw Mill, Gristmill or . . . .	Height of Dam . .	Name of Owner or Agent . .
Moscow township of Blenheim . . . .	Grist mill	Three and one half ft. high	Mr. Gray
Woolverton - do. -	Grist and saw mill	Six feet	Mr. Woolverton
Plattsville - do. -	Grist mill	Four feet	Mr. Snider
Blenheim . . . .	Saw mill	Eight feet	Mr. Schumacher
Near Plattsville . .	Grist mill	Four feet	Mr. Sew & Platt
Near Dry - Waterloo	Grist and saw mill	Five feet	Mr. Goldie
Dry . . . . do. -	Grist and saw mill	Seven feet	Mr. Piper
Mudge Hollow . .	Grist and saw mill	Eight feet	Mr. Alchine
Paris - County Brant	Grist mill	Six feet	Mr. Whitlaw
Galt - County Waterloo	Grist and saw mill	Five feet	Mr. James Blaine
Brantford Co. Brant	The Town dam	Six feet	Corporation Brantford
Paris . . . . do. -	Woolen mill	Eight feet	Mr. Penman
Hornes b <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> Oxford	Saw mill	Seven feet	Mr. Gray
Hornes b <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> - do. -	Saw mill	Four feet	Mr. Laycock
Hornes b <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> do. -	Grist and saw mill	Eight feet	Munday & Davis
Caladonia - St. Albans	A flour mill	about 8	" "
" " "	a saw mill	feet	The dams are owned
" " "	A woolen factory	"	River Navigation
Millfield dam -	A furniture fac-	about 6"	
No. 3. Staldman and	tory. &c.	feet	David Thompson
" " "	" " "	"	Indiana, County
York No. 2. -	A flour mill	about 5	is the President
" " "	A plaster mill	feet	Adam A. Davis
Mr. Healy dam	Saw mill	about 8"	in said County
No. 1. Staldman and	Flour mill	feet	Please refer
" " "	plaster mill	"	letter herewith
Indiana Co. - do.	A flour and	about 7"	position of the
" " "	plaster mill	feet	Navigation Company
" " "	" " "	"	
" " "	" " "	"	

and Tributaries. . . .

Address. -	Whether fishway Completed, refin- ished or wanting entirely. - -	If notified and when. -	Remarks. - - -
Paris - Onto.	Unfinished	Notified	
" "	when there. -	16. of June 1874.	
Woolverton	"	do. - -	To be finished in 2 weeks.
Plattsville.	Wanting. -	17. of June 1874.	The fishway easily put in.
Washington.	finished. -	17. of June 1874.	
Plattsville.	Wanting. -	17. of June 1874.	preparing to do it. -
Ayr. -	Completed. -	17. of June 1874.	A good fishway. - -
Ayr. -	Unfinished	17. of June 1874.	
Judge Holman	Wanting. -	18. of June 1874.	stated he would put in fishway.
Paris - Onto.	Wanting. -	18. of June 1874.	getting out materials do. -
Fall. -	Wanting. - -	18. of Sept 1874	Refuses to put in fishway.
Oranford.	Completed. -	30. of Sept 1874.	Good fishway. - -
Paris - Onto.	Wanting. -	1st October 1874.	peremptory refused. -
Homer Lk.	Wanting. -	2d October 1874.	
Homer Lk.	Wanting. -	2. October 1874.	
Union Mill	Wanting. -	2. October 1874.	
" "	Wanting. - -	6. April 1874.	Messrs. J. Thorne,
by the Great Company. -	"	"	Messrs. J. Thorne,
"	Wanting. -	6. April 1874.	Messrs. J. Thorne,
"	"	"	Messrs. J. Thorne,
Espe M. P. of of Malden and	Wanting. -	6. April 1874. -	Messrs. J. Thorne,
"	"	do. - -	Messrs. J. Thorne,
Wanting. - - -	Wanting. - - -	6. April 1874. -	Adam & Davis, and A. Taylor
"	"	do.	owners. -
"	"	do	Messrs. John Donaldson, and
to Mr. A. A. Davis	Wanting. - -	6. of April 1874.	Mr. Donaldson - owner.
respecting the	"	do.	Sas: Lee, S. Lister, James
of the River, etc.	"	do	Kirkland, and David
"	"	do	Thompson, etc. -
"	"	"	
"	"	"	

Rick's dam - J. Kines - Lower Mill Cr. about 8 1/2  
 Kerr's dam - Dr. Kerr - Saw Mill Cr. - about 7 1/2  
 Note --- As we have acted together and conferred

Mr. J. W. Kerr  
 Geo. S. Pappas, agt

this return jointly together. ---

Hamilton, Ontario

2<sup>nd</sup> of November 1894. -

To, The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister of Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa,

**BURLINGTON BAY FISHERIES.**—During the past eight years, the farmers of East and West Flamboro' and citizens of Hamilton were permitted by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, under sub-section 8 of section 13 of the Fisheries Act, "to spear herring every fall and winter, within certain limits of the waters of Burlington Bay." This spearing was principally carried on during the spawning season, and most extensively on the spawning beds—a visible decrease in numbers of this valuable fish having been plain and apparent on the spawning beds, both detrimental and injurious to the future productiveness and increase of the herring fisheries of Burlington Bay and Lake Ontario, long celebrated for this delicious fish. By representations made to the Department at Ottawa for the protection of all kinds of fish during the spawning season, and in which Mr. J. W. Kerr, Overseer of Fisheries, fully concurs, spearing for all kinds of fish has been prohibited in Burlington Bay and Dundas Marsh, and instructions issued by the Minister to the Overseer to be vigilant and employ reliable assistants, and make necessary arrangements, consistent with efficiency, to prevent spearing in Burlington Bay and Dundas Marsh. This is now being carried into effect by Mr. J. W. Kerr, and, so far this fall, most effectually. But as the herring are now making their appearance on the usual spawning grounds in Burlington Bay and Dundas marsh, several of those persons who have been heretofore permitted to spear herring, how openly say: "if we are not allowed to spear herring, we are determined to have them by some other means," which, it is presumed, means netting them. To use such threats, and carry the same into effect, leaves such persons liable to a fine of \$20 and all the costs, or one month in jail. The well-disposed amongst the farmers and the citizens approve of the Ministry's decision in preventing the spearing of herring during the spawning season on the spawning grounds of Burlington Bay and Dundas marsh, while the ill-disposed threaten to use nets to catch them. Many persons have been endeavoring to buy herring gill nets from fishermen on Burlington Beach, while others have gone and stolen nets, thereby preparing to carry out their vicious designs. It is to be hoped that Mr. J. W. Kerr will pounce on them, and all well-disposed persons are requested to aid this active and efficient public officer in maintaining the fishery laws, and frown down such law rejecting grumblers, and stop their blowing.

**THE SPEARING—BURLINGTON BAY.**—Mr. J. W. Kerr, fishery overseer, has apprised the local reporter of this paper, that being authorized and empowered by the Honorable the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa, he has made the necessary arrangements consistent with efficiency, to prevent spearing and netting in Burlington Bay and Dundas marsh. Mr. Kerr has reliable men as his associates, and requests through this paper, the Messrs. Bastien, Thompson, boat owners and proprietors near the G. W. Railway depot, not to rent out their boats to persons, under any pretence, who make a practice of breaking the fishery laws; and to Mr. Garret, boat proprietor of Land's bay, the same kindly advice is given. The slightest contravention of the act makes liable to confiscation, boats and material improperly and illegally in use. Every effort should be put forward to assist Mr. Kerr in his exertions to protect our valuable fisheries of Burlington Bay.



Brantford, Ontario, --	10. November 1874,	This dam is near Brantford,
Hamilton, Ontario, --	10. November 1874,	in John A. Park's --
with each other, we have	made out and	signed, and Certified

John W. Kerr  
 Fishery Officer, Hamilton,  
 Sd Henry Griffith S.O.,  
 Brantford.

"Private"

My dear Sir,

Will you please find herewith one of the letters of Mr. A. A. Davis Secretary - La River, Navigation Company - referred to, in my Report of 24<sup>th</sup> instant. --

Please append this letter to that report, and oblige - Very Respectfully

Yours, H.

John W. Kerr  
 S.O. -

30. Nov: 1874. -

S. W. Bauschke,  
 H. Capt  
 Ottawa.

Stationery 50.

50. 75



My Dear Sir:

2. December 1874.

I have the honor to send you the copy  
of petition referred to in my report of the 24<sup>th</sup>  
ultimo. . . . .

I Have &amp;c,

S. P. Bauset Esq  
J. Ash  
Ottawa

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

Also a printed article from a News=  
paper - about the Improvement of R. River, -  
Yrs J. W. Kerr  
J. O.

My dear Madam, -

I have just received  
your letter - and I can assure you, I am  
sorry to learn your husband is so danger=  
ously ill. - The person has made application  
to me on the subject you write. - You may  
rest satisfied in case of the demise of  
your husband: your prior claims always  
will be first considered. . . .

Believe me - Respectfully

Your obedient servant,

Chas. A. Harris  
Port Erie,  
Ont.

John W. Kerr  
J. O.  
2. Dec 7 1874.

Sunday, 29, Dec: 1874. -

At the Heights - to see Chris: Case, and make inquiries about spearing herring at the Heights - went out at 1. p.m. came in at 5 p.m. - mile 12. Horse and Cutter <sup>#</sup> 2.50. -

Monday, 30, Dec: 1874. -

At Hamilton depot - seized two barrels of White fish - it being close season - the same being illegally caught - got them in possession of the Express Company - addressed - To H: Colson - Buffalo - - - from A: and A.W. Post, Dealers in Fresh Salt and Smoked fish - Collingwood - Ontario. - - -

went out at 7.30, a.m. came in at 11. p.m. mile 8. H&C cutter <sup>#</sup> 1.50. - at Council until 4.30, p.m.

In the evening, went to the Heights - found all regular - went out at 6. p.m. - came in at 9. p.m. - mile 12. H&C Cutter <sup>#</sup> 1.50. -

W. J. Whitcher. - - -  
Commissioner of Fisheries.  
Ottawa,

Hamilton, 1. Dec: 1874. - - -

I seized this morning, and

Confiscated twelve barrels of White fish, illegally caught - shipped from Collingwood - arrived at Toronto, last evening - and here this morning. - Will sell them for benefit of Department,

John W. Kent,  
J. O.

Tuesday - 1<sup>st</sup> of December 1874. -

at the G. W. Railway station - went on Board the Express Car - where I found twelve Barrels of White fish - all fresh - recently caught - which I signed they being shipped from Collingwood the morning of the 30<sup>th</sup> of November, arriving at Toronto, the same evening by Walker Express - when they were handed over to Mr. Thomas W. Davis - of the American Express Company - Hamilton - and received at Hamilton - this morning by 9. a.m. Train. - - - as follows: - - -

1. From Charles Duffy, Dealer in Fresh and Salt Fish. - Collingwood - Ont. - -

All packages must be promptly returned.  
For N. D. Bates - Hamilton. - - -

2. From Arthur Clark, Dealer in Fresh, Salt, and Smoked fish. Collingwood - Ont.

Orders promptly filled. - - -

For N. D. Bates. - Hamilton. - (70.)

3. From Arthur Clark. - Dealer in Fresh, Salt and Smoked fish, - Collingwood - Ont. -

Orders promptly filled. - - - C. O. D.

For N. D. Bates. - Hamilton. - (76)

4. From Arthur Clark, Dealer in fresh, Salt and Smoked fish. - Collingwood - Ont.

Orders promptly filled. - - -

For S. S. Curtis. - Hamilton. - (70.)

5. From Arthur Clark, Dealer in fresh, Salt and Smoked fish, Collingwood Ont.

Orders promptly filled. - - -

For S. S. Curtis. - Hamilton. - (65.)

6. From Arthur Clark, Dealer in fresh, Salt and Smoked fish - Collingwood, Ont. - Orders promptly filled. - - -

For Isaac Steven. - Hamilton - 65 fish.

C. O. D.

7. J. Davis. Hamilton . . . . From A. and D. W. Port,  
Dealers in Fresh, Salt and Smoked fish Colling-  
wood, Ont. . . .
8. To Jones & Smalle - Buffalo . . . .  
From A. and D. W. Port, Dealers in fresh,  
Salt and Smoked fish, Collingwood, Ont.
9. To H. Tolma - Buffalo . . . From A. and D. W.  
Port, Dealers in Fresh Salt and Smoked fish,  
Collingwood, Ont. . . .
10. To, H. Tolma, Buffalo . . . From A. and  
D. W. Port, Dealers in fresh, Salt and Smoked  
fish - Collingwood, Ont. . . .
11. Messrs. Chappell and Storer, 16. Fulton fish  
Market . . . New York . . . From A. & D. W.  
Port, Dealers in Fresh, Salt, and Smoked  
fish, Collingwood, Ont. . . .
12. To Jones & Smalle, Scott St. fish Market,  
Buffalo . . . . From A. and D. W. Port,  
Dealers in Fresh, Salt and Smoked fish.  
Collingwood, Ont. . . .
13. To James & Small, Scott St. fish Market.  
Buffalo . . . From A. & D. W. Port, Dealer  
in Fresh, Salt and Smoked fish . . .  
Collingwood - Ont. . . .
14. To Jones & Smalle, Scott St. fish Market.  
Buffalo . . . . From A. & D. W. Port,  
Dealers in Fresh, Salt and Smoked fish,  
Collingwood - Ont. . . .

went out at 8. A. M. : Came in at 5. P. M.  
The fourteen Barrels of White fish being all  
Fresh - just recently caught - in contravention of  
the fishing Act - between the 19. of November,  
and the 1<sup>st</sup> of December - as examined by myself,  
Joe Tate, and S. S. Curtis. I seized and  
confiscated them - and then sold them. . . .  
Curtis informed me privately - that the fishermen



at Collingwood fished - all through the close season - that after the McQuay - was first appointed - he Curtis observed close time and did not fish - while the other fishermen paid no attention whatever to close time law. - that he Curtis ultimately fell into the unlawful proceedings himself - I sold the fish as follows: - To Mr Morris 3. Barrels - W. fish delivered to Joe Gates - - 20.00.

--- 2. Barrels to Mr Morris, - 13.00.  
 To, P. D. Bates. - 3. Barrels, - 20.00.  
 Bates entreated of me to pay this amount for him - as he had no money - I agreed to do so, and allowed him to take them. -  
 S. S. Curtis - 4. Barrels - 26.00  
 do. - 1. do - 6.00  
 W. F. Munday. - 1. Barrel - 5.00

Total. \$90.00

Exp - One dollar I gave to Joe Gates  
 Mile travelled was about 20. Horse and Sleigh -  
 #3. - Charles John Kerr 1.50. - dinner &c 75. -

I also heard that fishermen at Collingwood fish 4 1/2 inches mesh White fish and Salmon Trout gill nets - all wrong - and no distinction should be allowed by the Fishery department on this head. - - - Miles 20,  
 J. W. Kerr, Jr. 75.

Wednesday, - 2<sup>d</sup> Dec: 1874. -

In town - making enquiry about fish illegally caught. - went out at 8. a. m. came in at 1. p. m. Miles 12. up at St. Allans - St<sup>d</sup> sleep <sup>#</sup> 1.50. -

Thursday, 3. Dec: 1874. - -

at Hamilton - thence to the Jags - across to St. St. Cores - B. Beach, thence to the Heights - around the Depot - Clay wharf, - and Sands bay. - - thence to Jags Inlet - grappled every suspected place, found no nets. - Having very numerous at the Heights - they were flipping! - - St. St. Crag. Chas. J. Kerr, St<sup>d</sup> red <sup>#</sup> 3 Kerr, with me it was very stormy, and we shipped some water owing to from Beach to Heights. - saw lake's lease, and the Watchman at St. Bridge - who reported everything O.K. - no lights - no spearing. found a small beam at the Heights - sent it a drift, went out at 3. a. m. came in at 1.30. a. m. - Miles 26. - - St<sup>d</sup> B. 2.50, Boat and Boatmen 1.50 each = 4.50, -

Friday, 4. Dec: 1874. -

at Pt. Credit, and Toronto and the Island. got up my fish return on the Island. - St<sup>d</sup> J. J. Vicker's Esq<sup>r</sup> summoned up before Mr. J. J. Vicker's Esq<sup>r</sup> Police Mag<sup>st</sup> upon the complaint of the American Express Company - for having 14 B<sup>3</sup> of white fish caught between the 19<sup>th</sup> day of Nov<sup>r</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> of December, in contravention of the Fisheries Act. - Mr. Thos: W. Davis, and myself were examined for the complaint, - and Mr. J. J. Vicker's - was examined in his own behalf, he proved his ignorance of the law, and of the kind of fish. - the barrels contained - the Magistrate dismissed the case - Complimented J. W. Kerr -

very highly - for the manner in which he discharged his duty - as Dealer of Fisheries - went out at 8. a. m. came in at 11. p. m. - miles 48. Ry fare 1.30. - dinner tea and bed 75 - Boat to the Island #1. -

Saturday, 5. December 1874. -

at Toronto, and Home. - got out a summons for P. D. Bate, - for having White fish in his possession - on Saturday - the 28. of November in the City of Hamilton - in Contravention of the Fishing Act. - got Witness summonses for S. S. Kewty, John Davis, - John Taylor, and W. V. Munday - all to appear at Police Court, - Hamilton - 9. o'clock, a. m. on Monday morning next. - - Railway fare 1.30. - breakfast 25. - Boat hire 1. - 1874.

Sunday 6. December 1874.

at the Heights Geo. & Fred; the Stacking were very numerous. did not see John Case saw his father, who reported everything right, went out at 5. p. m. came in at 10. p. m. - miles 12. Ry fare 2.00. -

Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> Dec: 1874. - -

at Police Court. P. D. Bate, was up for having fresh Wh: fish in his poss<sup>n</sup> at Hamilton on the 28. of November, last in Contravention of fishing Act. - John Davis, W. V. Munday, John Taylor, Isaac Stevens Thomas Connor, and J. W. Kent, examined as Witnesses. - paid Isaac Stevens 50. - - - - Witness fees. - Bate was very insulting and threatening towards me - said he would have me overhauled for past nine years. John Whitmore. Paid for Supts charges \$14.67 cent - put the fish in Bate stall assisted by Bate, was partner then - with Bate - dissolved Partnership same day. -



Sir,

8. December 1874. -

I beg most respectfully to inform you, that on Friday last, the 4<sup>th</sup> instant, at 3 o'clock, p.m., at Toronto, before Alexander Macnab Esq<sup>r</sup> Police Magistrate. - I had J. J. Vicker Esq<sup>r</sup> Canada Express - Proprietor there brought up - for having fourteen barrels of fresh white fish in his possession, between the 19<sup>th</sup> of November, and the 1<sup>st</sup> of December, to wit; on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of November last the same being just recently caught, killed and shipped from Collingwood - by his Express on the same day for Hamilton, Buffalo, and New York, in Contravention of the Fisheries Act; and as per labels and addresses thereon taken by me from each barrel, and now sent you herewith. - -

I proved the seizure and Confiscation of the white fish at Hamilton. - - -

Mr Thomas W. Davis, Express-Man, Toronto, proved to his having got the fourteen barrels from Vicker Express <sup>at Toronto</sup> - and to his forwarding the same on to Hamilton. - - -

Mr Vicker was examined on oath in his own behalf, and testified he was a Commission Carrier did not know what the barrels contained could not refuse taking the barrels, acted in ignorance of the law; please refer to Section 16. - - but now that he knew, what the law in the Case was, would be more particular for the future and would assist me herewith in my duty to suppress the illegal possession of white and other fish during close season. -

Mr Macnab Police Magistrate thereupon dismissed the Case, giving Mr J. J. Vicker, due caution for the future. - Mr Vicker asked for his Express Charge on the 14 Barrels of white fish, but Mr Macnab told him he was entitled to none, and that it was his duty in future to examine barrels containing



fish and see if caught illegally - Mr. Vicker  
asked me to furnish him with a copy of the  
Fishing Act, and he would hereafter stop  
the traffic by his help, would aid and  
assist me in the work.

I hope it will not be out of place for  
me to add for your information that Mr.  
Macnab complimented me for the manner in  
which I have always discharged my duty...

Hon. Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries  
Ottawa.

I have &c.  
John Kerr  
J. Ouellet

Monday - 7. Dec 1874. - Continued...  
went out at 8. a.m. Came in at 6.30. p.m.  
Miles 10. H & B: 1.50<sup>4</sup>, dinner & 50<sup>4</sup>. -

Paid for Memorandum book 25.  
foolscap, and letter paper, envelopes  
and ink. for quarter 2.50, including  
quill. - - -

Tuesday, 8. Dec: 1874.  
at my reports - about 1000 fish seizures. - -

Wednesday, 9. Dec: 1874. -  
at Height - saw Chris Case, who re-  
ported all night, Herring still on the  
spawning grounds. - Examined the  
marsh below Railway - saw 10<sup>3</sup>  
Hofkins and young Krofts, the Watch-  
man at the New Port; went out at  
1.30. p.m. Came in at 6. p.m. Miles  
12. H & Wagon - 2.00, Charles J. Kerr, was  
with me. - - -

Sir,

8. December 1874.

I have the honor to report for your information that on Monday the 30<sup>th</sup> day of November last, in this City, in the American Express Company's Car, - at the G. W. Railway depot, I seized two barrels of White fish, very fresh, recently caught, and killed, in the Georgian Bay, - Collingwood. I have no hesitation in stating my experience for your information, that these White fish were caught between the 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, and the 1<sup>st</sup> of December instant, in Contravention of the Fisheries Act. - I acted also from private information conveyed to me privately by Mr. W. F. Munday, Express Agent - Hamilton, that a fish dealer here tried to induce him to pass White fish through the Express, during close season. - And from private information conveyed to me by a fish-dealer, who until recently fished at Collingwood. - Besides the gill nets fished there, for White fish and Salmon Trout, are illegal; being only 4 inches extension measure instead of five inches - see Sub Section 2, of Section 9. -

With only one main object in view, which a long service of ten years, has deeply impressed upon my mind vizt, - the preservation and protection of the White fish fisheries: - and with this sole object in view, I addressed you, on the 24, of November last, and told you what I had then just heard about White fish gill net fishing at Collingwood. -

Collingwood is not in my division, but when Collingwood, White fish, illegally caught - arrive within my division, as in this case, Sub Section 2, of Section 18, of the Fisheries Act, plainly points out to me what my duty is! - And Sub Section 4, of Section 16, - points out how these two barrels

in this case, seized, and Confiscated, are to be disposed of. -

I may mention for your information, that I sold the 2 Barrels herein referred to, to Mr. Morris - Hamilton - for thirteen dollars. - - -

They were addressed to, H. Solima, Buffalo - from A. & J. W. Port, dealers in fresh, salt, and smoked fish - Collingwood, Ont. - - Please refer to Cards No. 9 and 10. herewith. - Will report on the 12 Barrels tomorrow. -

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
The Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries,  
Ottawa,

I Have the,  
John W. Kerr,  
St. Margaree.

My dear Sir,

Please sign your name to the bottom of Vouchers - and return them to me at once. - - -

Mr James J. Wilcox,  
Port Credit.

Yrs Truly,

J. W. Kerr

D. C. 11. Dec: 1874.

Postages 50¢ -  
Telegrams 50¢

Wrote Thomas, John W. Paddy, Ottawa,  
Jos J. Wilcox - & Henry Griffith -

Sir,

11. December 1874,

I have the honor to report for your information that I was informed on yesterday that Dundas Marsh, situated in the County of Wentworth, at the head of B. Bay, is going to be sold by the Local Government, Toronto, to a Company, composed of Messrs W. J. J. of Barton, Donald Nicholson, and Edwin J. O'Reilly, Esqrs of the City of Hamilton.

As this Marsh has been so immediately and closely connected with the valuable fisheries of B. Bay, of which it forms an important part, and to prevent future trouble, will you be pleased to protect our fisheries, and fishing rights, so far as the sale of the Marsh about to take place by the Local Government, Toronto, is concerned. - I am still of the opinion, that Dundas Marsh, should be kept as a preserve exclusively for fish breeding purposes by the Dominion Government.

I strongly recommend this matter for your consideration, to be acted upon promptly, because a Surveyor has been engaged for some days past ascertaining the quantity of Marsh and water therein, independent of Hazard's claim, preparatory to making the sale to persons herein named.

Respectfully Submitted,  
I Have &c

John W. Kerr  
J. W.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Ministers,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.



Thursday - 10, Dec: 1874. -  
 At B. Beach, found all regular, went out  
 at 1. p. m. came in at 6.30. p. m. Miles 24,  
 home by City of Hamilton - Charles J. Kerr,  
 with me -  $\$4 \frac{4}{5} 2.50$  -

Sir

9, December 1874. - -

I have the honor to report for your information  
 that on Tuesday last, the 1<sup>st</sup> day of December last, I seized  
 twelve Barrels of fresh white fish, just recently caught  
 in the Georgian Bay - at Collingwood - and forwarded  
 here by Messrs Charles Duff, Arthur Black, and A. and  
 F. W. Port fishermen at Collingwood. - who shipped  
 them from there, on 30. of November, ("close season") they  
 arrived at Toronto, by Victoria Express, at 10. p. m. the  
 same night. - - Three barrels were addressed to P. D.  
 Bates, fish dealer - Hamilton - please refer to Cards  
 Nos: 1, 2, and 3 - sent you on yesterday. - -

One barrel, was for Isaac Stevens, Hamilton,  
 please refer to Card - marked No: 6. - sent you  
 on yesterday. - -

Two Barrels were addressed S. S. Curtis  
 fish dealer - Hamilton - please refer to Cards Nos  
 4, and 5, sent you on yesterday. - -

One barrel was addressed to J. Davis - Hamilton,  
 please refer to Card No: 7. - -

One barrel was addressed to Mrs B. Chappell,  
 please refer to Card No: 8. - -

While the remaining four barrels were  
 addressed to Jones & Ennis, Buffalo - please  
 refer to Cards Nos 8, 12, 13, and 14, already sent  
 you on yesterday. - -

I was privately informed by Isaac Stevens  
 on Monday 30. of November last, that barrels  
 Nos: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 - were telegraphed for

on Saturday (previous) the 28<sup>th</sup> of November, so as to arrive in Hamilton on Tuesday's market morning, which they did! -

"From the fresh appearance of these white fish, I am led to believe the nets were fished up early on Monday the 30. of November, and their fresh appearance has led me to believe those 12 barrels, were not caught more than 48 hours, when I first examined them... Messrs. S. S. Curtis and Joseph Yates - fish curers, who cleaned, cured, and smoked a large proportion of them since, express themselves candidly to this effect. And so have all the other fish dealers - Hamilton. . . .

I may here state that I have it from undoubted authority, that Section 9, of the Fisheries Act, "It shall not be lawful to fish for, or catch white fish, in any manner between the 19<sup>th</sup> of November, and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of December?" - has never been observed ~~or respected~~ by the fishermen at Collingwood; and I furthermore in one or two instances I heard - One I am sure of, W. D. Bates, fish dealer - Hamilton - received from Arthur Clark, of Collingwood on the 28. of November, one barrel of White fish, and a portion of another barrel, with the invoice dated 24<sup>th</sup> of November, read as follows: -

130, fresh fish, -	\$ 13.00
Shipping, at 1.50 - per 100 fish, -	
	<u>Total \$ 14.50</u>

"Thus proving beyond a doubt, the attempt made to carry on clandestinely, the purchase, possession, and sale of White fish during close season, by this same W. D. Bates and his partner John Whitmore, as will appear to you more fully in another (case) report, when made of proceedings taken against W. D. Bates on Monday last. . . .

It has also been communicated to me that the fishermen at Collingwood, fish gill nets for catching Salmon Trout and White fish containing meshes of 4½ inches, instead of 5"

riches extension measure - please read sub section 2, of section 9, of Fisheries Act. ---

Under all these circumstances I am ~~very~~ <sup>very</sup> ~~much~~ <sup>much</sup> ~~convinced~~ <sup>convinced</sup>, having in view the future well being, and protection of the White fish fisheries of the Province of Ontario, -- to make this seizure of those twelve barrels of White fish, having the power within myself to search the American Express bar, where I had cause <sup>to believe</sup> from information received, that White fish taken in contravention of the Fisheries Act, were concealed & parcelled up: - please read sub section 2, of section 18, of the Fisheries Act. ---

And having made the seizure myself on view I confiscated the fish, and sold them as follows: -

1. To Mr. Morris, fish dealer	2 Barrels	\$ 13.00.
2. " Mr. Morris, - do.	3. do.	20.00.
3. " Mr. P. D. Bates. - do.	3. do.	20.00.
4. " Mr. S. S. Lewis. do	4 Barrels	26.00.
5. " do, do	1 Barrel	6.00.
6. Mr. W. B. Monday. -	1 Barrel	6.00.
Total...		\$ 91.00

I gave Joe Tate, out of this one dollar, for services rendered. - so that I have now in my possession by this transaction ninety dollars. -

The law says: The proceeds of disposal thereof, may be applied towards defraying expenses under this Act; - please read sub section 4, of section 16. ---

Mr. W. B. Monday, American Express Agent, here - Consider from the active aid he gave me in this case and in other cases heretofore, that his company should get out of the \$90, - Express charges to which I cannot demur, because Mr. Monday has certainly always



afforded me valuable aid in the discharge of my duty; and he too, like me, has warned fish dealers of the consequences - if they - persisted in committing Contravention of the Fisheries Act... I have no power within myself, to pay Express Charge out of this \$90 - dollars! - I strongly recommended Mr. Monday's application for American Express Charges, between Hamilton and Toronto, to your favourable Consideration... Except, A. and J. W. Port, the other fishermen are poor men, and they have had a very unfavourable fishing season this year at Collingwood; I believe this seizure and confiscation will have the desired effect for which I moved for, in this matter.

I hope you will be pleased to allow the cases now, to remain where they are, - so far as the Collingwood fishermen are individually concerned... Mr. Whitcher, the Commissioner, telegraphed orders to prosecute all the different persons implicated, my proceedings here will be all sufficient if approved of by you...

I hope however that the Commissioner will be pleased to write his mind on this case, to all fishermen concerned, and warn them against a repetition of those offences...

I may here observe that on the 2<sup>d</sup> of December, the last two years, I always found White fish in the markets for sale, which surprised me some, knowing they were not caught within my division, it put me more on the alert to find out this year where they came from - hence it is that I have now found out at last, and give you all particulars...

Mr. Malcolm MacAuley, fisherman at Southampton - Lake Huron - who was in



Hamilton last Tuesday, when I made this Surge  
 assured me close season was never observed  
 at Southampton, it was their best fishing  
 time. . . . I may add in Conclusion that  
 most of the White & Surge were full of  
 spawn. . . .

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister of  
 Marine & Fisheries,  
 Ottawa,

I have &c &c.

Johill Kerr  
 Fishery Officer.

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your kind  
 favour of the 7<sup>th</sup> instant, in the matter of Charley  
 Shreeve. . . .

I regret very much to say - that it is en-  
 tirely out of ~~the~~ <sup>my</sup> power to interfere now in the  
 matter. . . . There is no fear of the Licenses being  
 taken off. - but I hope better arrangements  
 rules and regulation will be made to for the  
 advantages of fisheries and fishermen. . . .

I hope you are all well, Believe me  
 My dear Sir, as ever and always, -

Yours sincerely,

Johill Kerr,

Fishery Officer.

12 December 1874.

Mr Patrick Layhe,  
 Fisherman,  
 Port House,

My dear Sir,

Will you be so good as to let me have on receipt the length of your line in yards, the value of your boat, and the quantity and money value of all kinds of fish caught by you during this current year, at Low Banks - Lake Erie, -

Your immediate compliance will much oblige, - please state if any person else fished in your neighbourhood this year, and who, and oblige,

Yrs. Sincerely,  
John W. Ware

J. Ware

12. Dec. 1874.

Isaac Michael Esq.

M. M.

Low Banks Office

Onto

Postage 10.4.

My dear Sir,

It is so long since I paid my last visit to Dunville - that you may be led to believe I am not coming there any more - I shall be there again and with you in a few days. - -

Will you be so good as to tell the fish<sup>ers</sup> and apprise Carry and Henry Rofs, I will be glad to see them, when I come, and get returns. - My kind regards to you and yours, - believe me very truly and

Maternally yours,

John W. Ware

J. Ware

12. December 1874.

David Bruce Esq.  
Dunville -  
Onto.

My dear Sir,

Will you be so kind as to send me by return of mail, an accurate account of all the fish caught by you and others in the Otter at Vienna - the money value of the same during this current year, also the number of dip nets fished there, besides your own, and oblige,

Yours sincerely

John W. Kerr

J. A. Quincey,

14, Dec: 1874.

Mr. Thomas Purdy,  
Vienna,  
Onto.

Monday, 14, Dec: 1874, -

At the Heights, saw Christopher's house - found all regular, - went out at 8, a.m., came in at 1.30, p.m., miles 12, St. & Sleigh 2.00 -  
E: Kerr with me. - - -

Tuesday, 15, December 1874, - -

At Supt's Br: Queenston, and Niagara, getting up statistics, for current year, went out at 8, a.m., came in at 8, p.m., miles 64, Ryf. - fare 1.50, dinner 40, St. & Sleigh from S: Bridge to Niagara 2.50, tea and bed 50, -

Wednesday, 16, Dec: 1874,

At Niagara, thence to Port Erie, and Prof. Yale, back to S: Bridge and home to St. Catharines - miles 108, - Ryf fare 1.00, 75. Street Cars 20¢ from Port: to Hamilton 1.50 - dinner 25¢ and Street Car 5¢ getting up my returns for year 1874. - -  
Breakfast 25¢ & Sending 1.00.

My dear Sir,

Will you be so good as to send me an account of all the Suckers, and Shad suckers, - caught in the Credit during this current year. -

Please give each man's name, who paid the five dollars separately. - -

Yrs Sincerely,

My James J. Wilcox  
J. Judson,  
B: Credit. -

John W. Kerr  
B. Credit,  
14. Dec: 1874.

Thursday, 14. Dec: 1874.

At B: Straits - Bay all frozen over. - thence by the plains to B. beach, and across the canal found all regular, got returns from Ben: Joyce, and W. H. Corey. went out at 9. a. m. came in at 3. p. m. - miles about 26. H & W 2.50 tolls 8 Horse feed 25. dinner 50¢ Chas: John Kerr with me. - - -

Friday, 18. Dec: 1874. - -

At Railway to make enquiry about one of Eastern boats - employed no doubt fishing a small piece of Herring gill net. - went out at 9. a. m. came in at 2. p. m. miles 12, all regular. - Herring all night and gone away. - - W. Kerr with me H & W 2.00.



Sir,

18. December 1874. -

With reference to my report to you, dated the 9<sup>th</sup> instant, giving particulars of the seizure, confiscation, and sale by me of 14, barrels of White fish caught at Wellington in contravention of the Fisheries Act. - -

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque No: 63, for the sum of 90<sup>00</sup> dollars, to be disposed of, as laid down in sub section 4, of section 16, of the Fisheries Act. -

Hon: Minister  
H. H. H.,  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
John W. Kerr  
T.O.

Sir,

18. Dec: 1874.

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque No: 62, for 25<sup>00</sup> dollars. - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount on fishing at Fort Erie, in the Niagara River - for the year 1875, commencing the 1<sup>st</sup> of January next, as at present occupied there, by Mr. Chester A. Harris.

Hon: Minister,  
H. H. H.,  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
John W. Kerr  
T.O.

Sir,

19. December 1874.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> instant, directing me to proceed to Collingwood and take proceedings against the fishermen (they are all fishermen) and fish dealers at Collingwood - for fishing for, catching and killing white fish in close season; and for having the same in their possession in contravention of the Fisheries Act. - - -

I have written Mr. George S. Miller, G. R. at Green Sound - appointing a day - when he will meet me at Collingwood, and assist me to carry your orders into effect. -

Will you be pleased to send me back the fourteen cards of address - I sent you as taken off the barrels of white fish, I seized, confiscated, and sold. - I will require these cards at Collingwood - to show that the white fish shipped from there, and caught during close season, were the same that arrived here, as reported before. - - -

It appears, - and I expect to establish it, - that the fishermen at Collingwood, fished up - on 27. and 28. of November last, "close season", when they caught the white fish, which form the subject of this report. -

Yours sincerely,

H. H. H.

Attorney.

I Have &c.

John W. Kent  
G. R.

Sir,

19. December 1874.

I have the honor to report for your information that the Herring entered B. Bay, this season to spawn in millions - By a careful supervision adopted under my own personal observation; I beg most respectfully to inform you, that with only one solitary case - "Please refer to my report of 20. of November last?" - No Contravention of the Fisheries Act, by spearing during the spawning time, has taken place. - - -

I here take the liberty of stating for your information that there is at present a number of persons, both Citizens, and fishermen, who earn some money - by spearing fish in their fish houses placed on the ice during winter. - And as many of them are poor men with families; may I respectfully take the liberty of recommending that you will be pleased to permit spearing through the ice in B. Bay, between the 31 of December, and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March next, at the nominal sum of one dollar. - - This permission will not interfere in any way, with fish spawning. -

And I the more cheerfully recommend it for your consideration, because of the strict observance of the law, during herring spawning, and the position of those, whom it will serve. - -

Hon. Ministe,  
F. F. F.  
Omaha,

I Have &amp;c,

John W. Kerr  
D. Oakes,

Sir,

19, December 1874. -

With reference to my report of the 9<sup>th</sup>, instant, as regards Mr. P. H. Bates. Fish dealer - Hamilton, receiving white fish from Arthur, black fisherman - and Fish dealer, Collingwood, during the close season and having the same in his possession, to wit; "on the 28<sup>th</sup> of November last at Hamilton in contravention of the Fisheries Act?" I have now the honor to report that Messrs John and Isaac Stevens, Fish dealers here, and Mr W. J. Munday, Esqrs Agent here - laid the complaint and proved the case. - - P. H. Bates, was fined ten dollars, and about eight dollars costs by James Cahill, Esq. J. P. Police Magistrate here. - -

Bates has appealed ag<sup>t</sup> this conviction. -

"These white fish, here referred to, form no part of the fourteen barrels of white fish already reported to you, as seized, confiscated, and sold by me. - - They are different white fish, so that you will please observe my reports about contravention of the Fisheries Act, at Collingwood, are well founded on facts. - - I have the written proof of a Collingwood fisherman in my possession. -

Yours, Sir,

H. H. H.  
O'Hara,

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
J. O. -



Saturday, 19, Dec: 1874. -  
 at the Heights - to make off a fish house  
 put under Heights in old Canal by old  
 Mr. Case. - Saw Chris: Case - who rep<sup>d</sup>  
 every other thing regular. - in fish  
 Market - went out at 8.30. came in at  
 2. p.m. - returned again to see S. S. Curtis  
 went out at 3. p.m. came in at 6. p.m.  
 Mile 20. H & W<sup>+</sup> 2.50. - -

Sunday, 20, Dec: 1874. -  
 at S. S. Curtis - for information, respecting  
 catching, fishing for and killing white  
 fish in close season. thence to Becket's  
 Wharf, where I was hosted groaned  
 and called an old scoundrel by  
 several young men skating on the  
 Bay. - went out at 8.30. a.m. came  
 in at 12.30. p.m. Mile 12. H & W<sup>+</sup> 2.00.  
 Bed with me. -

Monday 21, December 1874. - -  
 At Weymouth, to get returns from Madley Hand. -  
 thence by sail boat to B. B. went from there  
 home by City of Hamilton. - went out at 8. a.m.  
 came in at 6. p.m. Mile about 36, Ry fare <sup>a</sup> 45  
 Boat fare 1.50. H & W<sup>+</sup> 2.50. -

"Private?"

My dear Sir,

I am instructed by the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Minister of Marine, and Fisheries - Ottawa - to proceed to Collingwood, make careful enquiries about the fishermen there, fishing job, and catching white fish, and having them in their possession, during close season in the month of November last, in contravention of the Fishing Act. ---

Also I am to take legal proceedings before you in your magisterial capacity - associated with myself, against those persons who have been guilty of the same. ---

Will you be pleased to appoint a day, after a few years, not however, until after the 4<sup>th</sup> of January next, when you can meet me in Collingwood - stating to me the Hotel where I will find you on my arrival there, by Railway - from Toronto. ---

Please don't say a word to the fishermen, nor any other person else, about this, before I see you there. ---

Believe me, Very Truly, and Respectfully Yours. -

George S. Miller Esq<sup>r</sup>  
J. Ouellet,  
Queen's Bench,

John W. Kerr  
J. Ouellet.

19. December 1874. -

Sir,

19. Dec: 1874.

I beg most respectfully to report for your information - that Peter Bath - a Licensed Fisherman - at Port Dalhousie - in Lake Onto. for this current year; has been tried recently at St. Catharines - for Burglary - and Robbery, and sentenced to 18. Months in the Penitentiary. I hope you will be pleased to Cancel his license for the remainder of this current year. -

Hon. Minister,  
H. H.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr  
H.O.

Tuesday, 22. Dec: 1874. -

At Toronto, - and Pt. Whitty - thence back to Duffins Creek, Frenchmans bay, and Pt. Union - getting up returns. &c. for current year, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 11. p.m. Miles about 90. Ry fare <sup>\$</sup>2.30, dinner tea and bed <sup>\$</sup>90. - H & Ry to Duffins Creek - <sup>\$</sup>2.00 to Frenchmans bay and <sup>\$</sup>3 Union 2.00. -

Wednesday, 23. Dec: 1874

At Pt. Union, Gate gulley - Leslieville, and Toronto, getting up returns. &c. Team <sup>\$</sup>3.00, breakfast, dinner tea and bed <sup>\$</sup>1.00 - went out at 9. a.m. came in at 3. p.m. - Miles 20.

Thursday, 24. Dec: 1874. -

At Toronto and Home - went out at 7. a.m. came in at 11. a.m. Miles 46. Ry fare <sup>\$</sup>1.30. H & Ry: 1.50. - breakfast <sup>\$</sup>40. -

My dear Sir,

Will you be so good as to let me have by return post - statement of the different kinds of fish caught by you - the money value of same - during this year, and oblige,

Yrs truly,

John W. Kerr

J. O.,

26, Dec: 1874,

Mr

J. R. Burnell,  
Port Stanley.

My dear Sir,

Will you be so good as to let me have by return post - a statement of the different kinds of fish caught by you, during this year, and the money value of the same. -

Yrs truly, -

John W. Kerr

J. O.,

26, Dec: 1874,

Mr Wm. Ingledew,  
Bronte.

My dear Sir,

I have not yet received Jack Bolton's return, please get them from him and send them to me. -

I hope your mother is better. -

I wish you all a happy Xmas and a pleasant New Year. -

Yrs sincerely, -

John W. Kerr

26, Dec: 1874,

Mr Thomas Elliott  
Niagara.



My dear Sir,

Will you be so good as to send me by Return mail, - a statement of the different kinds of fish caught by you during the year. - and the money value of the same. - - Why dont you pay me your license fee, for year 1874. -

Wm. W. Kersh  
P. O. Wm. W. Kersh,

Wm. W. Kersh  
P. O.

26. Dec: 1874.

Thomas Friday, 25. Dec 1874. - Day. - - -  
at P. O. beach - found all regular. -  
fishermen catching shad in their lines  
gill nets. - went out at 2. p.m.  
came in at 5.30. p.m. - mile 20. 44  
W<sup>4</sup> 2.50<sup>+</sup> - got 200. Cisco 2.00, Basket of  
shad 25.<sup>+</sup> C. J. Kerr, with me. -

Telegram,

Henry Groves,  
London - Please meet me today  
at London Station, when morning express from  
here arrives there, and oblige.

Hamilton,  
26. Dec: 1874. -

Wm. W. Kersh  
P. O.,

Telegrams 75. 50. 50

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 18<sup>th</sup> instant, was received by me some time past, but I have not been able to give it my attention. -- I shall submit your letter and plan to the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa, and obtain his permission to come up and prosecute the proprietors of the Coal Oil Establishment you refer to, under Section 14, and Sub Section 2, of Section 14, of the Fisheries Act. -- The penalty is one hundred dollars. -- please hold on for a short time, and I will come up. --

Y<sup>rs</sup> Respectfully,

John W. Kerr

Fishing Overseer. --

28. Dec: 1874. --

Charles Sharpe Esq<sup>r</sup>

Hq. Hc. Hc.

Geelfh - Ont<sup>o</sup>.

Saturday, 26. Dec: 1874. --

At London - to see Henry Jones - thence back home again. Went out at 8. a.m. came in at 6.30. p.m. - Mile 160, dinner 65¢ Ry fare 4.60 149 Wm 2.00.

My dear Sir,

Will you be so good as to let me have a full return of all the different kinds of fish caught by you this year. -- Market value of the same. -- the value of your boat, the length and name of your seine - My kind regards to you, and the compliments of the season. --

Y<sup>rs</sup> fraternally,

John W. Kerr

F. Overseer. --

28. Dec: 1874.

Henry Jones Esq<sup>r</sup>

Hc. Hc. Hc.

London - Ont<sup>o</sup>

My dear Sir,

I am just in receipt of your letter and now send you post office order - for the three dollars you refer to. -

Will you be pleased on receipt of this to (see) call on Bill Elliott, a fisherman at Port Burwell - and get from him the returns of fish &c. &c. I wrote him for last week. -

My kind regards to you, and wishing you a happy New Year, believe me, -

Very truly Yours, -

John W. H. -

Mr J. H. Hanson. - -  
Port Burwell. -

29. Dec 1874.

Mailed same day. - No: 5839 - 29 Dec 1874. -  
Stamp of Issuing office. - Hamilton. - Geo: H. Bull  
Joe Masters. -

Thursday. 31. Dec 1874.

At B: Bch. getting up returns for year 1874.  
went out at 8. a.m. came in at 7. p.m. Miles 26.  
144 B: 3.00 - Fishermen out lifting - good takes of biscuits  
and Shad. -

January, 1<sup>st</sup> 1875. -

At East end of City. to enquire if any illegal  
fishing was being carried on. heard from Garrett,  
that spearing lights were seen in Bay under  
Schmoak, on 31<sup>st</sup> Dec eve, went out at 8. a.m.  
came in at 2. p.m. - Mile 12. - 144 B: 1.50.

Tuesday, 5, January 1875,

# at Toronto, and Collingwood, - went out at 11.30, am, got in by 9.30, p.m. - miles 140, Ry fare  $2.85 + 1.30 = 4.15$ , H&C 1.50, dinner 40, tea 25, bed 25¢.

Wednesday, 6, January 1875,

# at Collingwood, investigating into illegal fishing for White fish during the "close season". In Geo. S. Miller, L. Y. O., with whom I was associated tried 3 cases - and disposed of them - please refer to report, here - after, in Collingwood all day - gathering information. - Board \$1.50.

Thursday, 7, January 1875. -

# at Collingwood, thence to Toronto and home - gave information to G. S. Miller about illegal fishing carried on at the mouth of the Algonquin River by New Black, during close season, and with two arrays of 2 1/2 inch mesh. - came in at 4, p.m. miles 140 - Ry fare  $2.85 + 1.30 = 4.15$ , Breakfast and dinner \$0.75¢ - Met old Sir John Clougher in Toronto. - please look on next pages for reports on game.



Sir,

7, January 1875. -

In obedience to your instruction of the 17<sup>th</sup> of December last, for me to proceed to Collingwood in the case of Charles Duffy - fisherman, fish dealer - resident there. - I beg most respectfully to report for your information that on Wednesday last - at Collingwood. Mr Charles Duffy appeared before Geo. S. Miller, the local fishing super. in his Magisterial capacity, with whom I was then and there associated, charged that you did have in your possession at Collingwood on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of November last, one barrel of white fish illegally caught, in contravention of the Fisheries Act. - His complaint being read over to all present - he admitted the same in writing over his signature. -

We fined him 10<sup>/-</sup>, without costs or 20 days in Brixton Jail. gave him time to pay until the pleasure of the Committee is just known. - - -

Mr Duffy - stated in extenuation of the offence committed by him - that he has a wife and six children. - That he set out before close season commenced, and in consequence of stormy weather was unable to fish up until Friday and Saturday previous to 30. of November: met with serious losses in nets by storm a year ago. - Also the loss of a steam tug worth 3,000 dollars - in same storm. - All of which I beg most respectfully to recommend to you in his behalf, for your favorable consideration. Beside it being the first time he has been charged. - I Have &c,  
 Wm. Miller, - John Miller  
 7.1.75

Sir,

7, January 1875.

In reply to your instruction of the 17, ult. to me, to proceed to Collingwood on the morning of, I have now the honor to report that on Tuesday last, I left here at 11.30, A.M., and arrived at Collingwood 139 miles - the same day - at 9.30, P.M.

The next day, at 4.30, P.M., Mr Geo. S. Miller L. J. G. Owen Esq., having by arrangement put in his appearance there. - Mr Arthur Clark - fisherman - Collingwood appeared before us, charged with having two barrels of White fish in his possession at Collingwood on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of November last, "Close Season" - and five other barrels of White fish in his possession at Collingwood, on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of November last close season - in contravention of the Act. - To these charges - Mr Arthur Clark pleaded guilty, in writing over his signature, explaining as the reason why he had the fish in his possession on these prohibited days was, that the nets were set out a few days before close season, and a big storm coming on the nets could not be picked up until the 27<sup>th</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup> of Nov hence the reason why he was guilty. -

The two barrels sent by him on 26<sup>th</sup> of November - close season to P. B. Batey fish dealer Hamilton - for which Batey was fined 10 dollars and costs, for having them in his possession at Hamilton, on 26<sup>th</sup> of November last; please refer to my report of 19, December last, these 2 barrels - Clark sent Batey in obedience to a telegram he received from him to do so. -

Mr Geo. S. Miller, in his Magisterial capacity with whom I was associated fined Arthur Clark ten dollars without costs & twenty days in jail gave time for payment until the pleasure of

is known in the matter. ---

In extenuation of the offence, he pleaded a large family - wife and 8 children, the eldest a boy of 15 years old, afflicted with lameness. He is a very truthful man, told me everything without hesitating. ---

In consequence of his large family, great losses of nets sustained a year ago, the confiscation of five barrels of white fish, 1 dozen belonging to him - at Hamilton on 1<sup>st</sup> of December last - shipped from Collingwood on 30<sup>th</sup> day of November last, "Close Season" which I sold for \$32, remitting the same to you. - I beg most respectfully to recommend that this fine be kept at present in abeyance, as a guarantee for future good behaviour. - Arthur Clarke to be seriously reprimanded through me, by the Minister, in the mean time, and because it was his first offence. ---

The original offenders in this case were the hands employed fishing, and who fished up the nets, on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup> last, - Mr Clarke gave me their names but he pleaded so hard, with me, not to proceed against them, as it would ruin him, that I deferred doing so, without special instruction from you. - He gave me important information for the good of the fishing which I will make known to you, in a general special report in a few days. -

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa,

I Have &c,  
John W. Ross  
H.A.



Sir,

7, January 1875.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> instant, in reply to mine of 19<sup>th</sup> ultimo, in which I recommended that spearing through the ice in B. bay, may be permitted, between the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December, and 1<sup>st</sup> of March next, so as to accommodate a certain class of poor men, and poor fishermen, whose wants for this privilege I then submitted for your consideration.

I am respected Sir, - aware that upon my recommendation you were pleased to allow a certain number of pike gill nets to be fished under license within a limited extent of the bay. This was adhered to last spring, except in one instance, where being departed from, I seized the net, as then reported to you, - It is correct that I gave in my recommendation against spearing for herring &c. &c. during the spawning season, this was strictly adhered to, last fall, My reason now for recommending so sudden a departure from such recent action, is based solely on the reasons put forth in my letter of 19, ultimo, for there is a great many men of the class, I therein described to you, who go round waiting at this season of the year, because they can get no employment, and who having adhered to the requirement of the Act - thus far! - would deem it a privilege to be allowed to spear thro the ice for the period as had, -

Altho the Anglers want the Bay exclusively for themselves, still I hope you would not consider it out of place in me asking the two month spearing privilege for this poorer class of men, who are not anglers,

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister,

4, 4, 4,

I have &amp;c

John H. H. H.



Les.

8. January 1875.

In obedience to your order to me dated the 17<sup>th</sup> ultimo, I proceeded to Colliingwood, where on Wednesday last the <sup>6<sup>th</sup></sup> instant, Mr H. W. Port, fish dealer &c, there, appeared before Mr Geo: S. Miller, Esq. J. O. in his judicial capacity, with whom by your order I was associated - charged that you did have in your possession on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> day of November last at Colliingwood eight barrels of white fish in contravention of the Fisheries Act? - In answer to these charges, Mr H. W. Port, over his own signature admitted in words as follows; "The charges being read over to me, I admit that about half of the white fish seized on the 30. of Nov; and 1<sup>st</sup> of December last, were caught in close season, the balance he believes were legally caught."

In this case we also imposed a fine of ten dollars, without costs, or 20 days in Barrie Jail - gave time until the pleasure of the Minister is known. -

Mr Port stated as an excuse, and in extenuation of the offences committed, - "That the fishermen set out their nets before the 19<sup>th</sup> of November, but were prevented by stormy weather from lifting until close season, when he received the 10th, fish and with other wh. fish legally caught, sent them away on the 30. of November, so as to be in the market on 1<sup>st</sup> of December, when they were seized by J. W. Kerr Esq. Hamilton - as he has heard and believe" - - to this excuse Mr H. W. Port also affixed his name. - - -

Subsequently! further on in the

evening of the 6<sup>th</sup> instant, Mr. H. W. Port waited on myself, and Mr. Geo. S. Miller, at the Lybba Hotel, Bollingwood - handed in a letter No. 1, together with, for the Hon. the Minister, admitting offence, but concerning exports of changes and value of wh. fish legally caught as he asserts. - And in support of his claim, I saw and gave the affidavit of Nathaniel H. Miller - made in my presence, No. 2, and handed in. - With reference to the Assertion that Salmon Trout were in the Barrels I seized, I may here state positively, that I saw no Trout in the barrels - but several other barrels of Trout, that I examined, were passed on by exports to their destination. - Somewhere I was reliably informed when at Bollingwood that several barrels of Trout, sent away in "close time" were packed in the centre of each barrel, with white fish, caught during close season, while the top and bottom of each barrel contained Trout. - - -

Pending a thorough investigation, I think it advisable, in Mr. H. W. Port's case that no decision be given at present by the Minister. - - - Mr. Port's <sup>books</sup> should be examined, and this Agent of his - and himself - be subjected to a searching examination, when I have no doubt on my mind, when it will be ascertained, what are the names of the fishermen, from whom white fish were bought by him - during close season. -

The fact of the matter is Mr. H. W. Port & Co. - are more to blame about the illegal fishing, in the Georgian Bay, and Collingwood, than the other fishermen there are, all put together. - Finding this to be so, I deferred going beyond the Seizure Cases, reported by me in the first place to you.

on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of December last, until your further pleasure has again made known to me in the premises. --- The original offenders are the fishermen who in the first place, caught the fish. ---

With regard to Express charges &c. claimed by Mr. D. W. Port - until the enquiry instituted, and now commenced is fully concluded, I will not have say any more on the subject. ---

Seven papers from Express agent handed to me by Mr. D. W. Port - please find herewith; ---

Hon. Mr. [unclear]  
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear]

I Have &c.  
John W. Kerr  
H. A.

Tuesday 12. January 1875.  
On Dr. B. Sch getting up my return -  
Dick Saafje and Alex. Gray paid me  
\$2. each - Rent for fishing Cisco gill  
nets, went out at 9. a.m. came in at  
4.30. p.m. - Miles 30. 144 blip - 3.00.



Sir,

9. January 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Vouches in duplicate, giving the names of Guardians on the Salmon Creek, situated as herein stated, for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 1874. -

I have much pleasure in stating that I believe the duties were faithfully performed by each individual. Very

		#	¢
1.	Mr Moses Smith, - Duffins Creek. -	100.00	
2.	" Henry W. Moon, The Rouge. -	20.00.	
3.	" Joseph Moon - Hiland Creek. -	20.00,	
4.	" James Storey - Lyons Creek. -	40.00,	
5.	" James J. Wilcox - The Credit. -	40.00	
Total ..		\$ 220.00,	

My Annual report now in preparation will state the progress the salmon are making in the creeks alluded to herein.

Yours, Minister

H. H. H.

B. M. M.,

I Have &c,

John W. Kest  
D. A.

Monday, 26. January 1875. -

At the Heights - and B. Bay. - Jerry Hudson, and Samuel Smoake paid me one dollar each, for the privilege of spearing went out at 9.30. a. m. came in at 2. p. m. Miles 12. St. Sleep \$2.00. dinner 25. - - -

postage stamp, 24

do.

304



Sir,

9. January 1875.

I had the honor to receive your order to protect the Herring in B. bay, during the spawning season: That duty being efficiently performed under my personal superintendence during the latter part of November and early part of December last.

I have now the honor to submit for your information Vouchers in duplicate which I hope will satisfy you that this duty was also efficiently executed with due economy: Viz:

1. J. H. Corey.	-	Mr. Beach.	-	10.	15.00.
2. Chris <sup>3</sup> Case.	-	Mr. Height.	-	15.	20.00.
3. Charles John Herd.	-	Barton, Boatman.	-	20.	00.
4. Fred <sup>2</sup> Kern.	-	Baird, Boatman.	-	20.	00.

Total. \$ 75.00

Hon: Minutes,  
H. H. H.  
A. Manna,

I Have &c,

John W. Kern  
S. O.

Thursday 28. January 1875.

At the Heights - Aaron Boden. paid me one dollar, for the privilege of spearing fish in B. bay and Joe Thompson. paid me 50. on acct. went out at 2. p.m. came in at 5.30 p.m. - miles 12. H4 Sleigh 2.00.

Stationery <sup>4</sup>45 and <sup>4</sup>75. X

Post office orders <sup>4</sup>40. X

Sir,

11. January 1875.

I have the honor to send you my a/ct and diary for the quarter ending 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 1874, as follows:

		The Diary in duplicate	\$ 4 165.38
Vouchers, No. 1,	John W. Kerr,	office rent,	5.00.
" " 2,	John W. Kerr,	postages,	5.00.
" " 3,	John W. Kerr,	Express charges	5.65.
" " 4,	John W. Kerr,	Dark Lantern	3.00.
" " 5,	John W. Kerr,	Stationery,	3.75.
" " 6,	John W. Kerr,	Telegrams.	2.65.
" " 7,	John W. Kerr,	Boat &c,	30.00
		Total	\$ 220.43

With due Respect,

I Have &amp;c,

Hon. Minister

G. G. G.

Ottawa,

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Friday. 29. January 1875. -

Mr B. Steights and B. Day, getting the names of persons speaking, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 3. p. m. - Miles 12. Dr Steigh <sup>\$ 4</sup> 2.00.

"Immediate".

My dear Sir and Brothers -

While you be so

kind as to see Philander Carey - on receipt of this, and ask him to let me know at once by letter, the amount of fish altogether caught at Malden and Duvvill during the year 1874, just ended. -

If it is more or less than that taken during the year 1873. - Election - and performing extra duty away has prevented my coming up. - I wish you and yours the compliments, and happiness, and many returns of the season. -

David Price Esq,  
Duvvill: P. Office.

Yrs fraternally.  
John W. Kerr  
D. O.  
12. January 1875.

"Private & Confidential."

My dear Sir, - Repeat your application to the Minister of Marine and fishing - Ottawa for a license to fish a Pound net, and I think it will be granted. - Don't upon your word say to any one that I bid you do this.

Mr Wm Smack  
Fisherman  
Durkey Point.

Yrs friend  
John W. Kerr  
D. O.  
14. Jan 1875.

My dear Sir,

I was recently informed that you issued a distrefs warrant against John Rossey and Fred<sup>14</sup> Jamison - Committed before you - for fishing for, catching and killing pickled on the 21<sup>st</sup> of April last. - And for which you fined each person at the time five dollars, and \$1.95 costs. -

Having received a letter from Constable George Hutton, that this amount was paid to you by each of them - Will you be pleased to send me five dollars, to which I am entitled, as prosecutor, and the please remit the other five dollars to the Minister of Marine and Fishing, same as you have done with the other five imposed on the occasion referred to. - How is B.A. Harris, has he recovered, or is he dead. -

I wish you many happy returns of the season. -

Charles Noble Esq<sup>r</sup>

Custom Dept

Fort Erie Onto

Yrs Paternally,

John H. Kerr

F.O.

14, January 1875. -



My dear Sir,

I expect your money every day -  
as soon as I get it - you shall have it,  
immediately. - - I wish you the Compliments  
of the season. - -

Yrs Sincerely,

John W. Kerr

J. O.

Hamilton - Onto

18. January 1875.

Mr. J. Wilson,  
Port Credit.

Postage 35¢

Telegrams 76¢

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to  
send me your license fee - for this current  
year - on receipt. - -

Yrs Truly,

John W. Kerr

J. O.

18. January 1875.

Mr. Geo. Hutton  
Fisherman,  
Port Erie.

My dear Mr Bauset,  
 Be pleased to find return No. 2,  
 from Toronto Island to B. Bch. - The balance  
 on tomorrow. - Many thanks for your answer  
 yes - to my telegram. - It was only the 2<sup>d</sup>,  
 time in all my life - I have attended a  
 Masonic funeral. -

My warm and grateful thanks for  
 all your kindnesses. -

Yrs most sincerely  
 John W. Kerr

S. M. Bauset Esq  
 Jr. Dept  
 Ottawa,

T.O.

Hamilton 21, Jan'y 1875,

Private,

My dear Mr Bauset,

Will you be pleased  
 to find the third return of my division -  
 from B. Bch to Lincolnton. - The balance  
 will quickly follow this. -

For your kind indulgence ac-  
 cept my warm thanks. -

Yrs most sincerely  
 John W. Kerr

T.O.

Hamilton, Onto

22, Jan'y 1875.

S. M. Bauset Esq  
 Jr. Dept  
 Ottawa,

private

My dear Mr. Bauset,

Be pleased to find return  
 Nos. 4 and 5 of my division herewith - together  
 with Grand Summary of the whole on sheet  
 No. 50. - My written report you may expect  
 to be ready by Monday next,

S. P. Bauset Esq.,  
 St. Catharines,  
 Ontario,

Your greatly obliged  
 John W. Bauset  
 St. C.,

23. Jan'y 1875.

My dear Sir,

Be pleased to find herewith  
 Post Office Order on Pickering P.O., Duffin & Co.  
 for sixty five dollars. -

Please pay James Linbon - and William  
 Ferguson - and pay yourself for Railway freight  
 on the boat. - Also pay the man, whom you  
 said Sam. Wilmore, promised something to, but  
 never gave it. -

My kind respects to Mrs. Smith-Byron,  
 and other members of your family. - Did you  
 send me the Drake - if so, I never got him! -

Yours very truly,

John W. Bauset  
 St. C.,

Moses Smith Esq.  
 Duffin Creek,  
 Onto.

Hamilton - Onto.

23. January 1875.

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to find here -  
with Post Office Order - for thirty dollars - Please  
answer, and acknowledge receipt.

I am glad to hear you are rid of the rheu-  
matism. - I am quite well, keep your eyes -  
wide open. -

Wm Jas. J. Miley  
Post Credit,  
Onto

Yours very truly -

John W. Kerr

P.O.

23. January 1875.

My dear Maam, -

Will you be pleased to find  
Post Office Order - for twenty five dollars - On  
Pickering Post office - "Duffins Creek". -

When you get it cashed, be so good  
as to give Harry - ten dollars - from me - Keep  
the balance. -

Joseph Maam Esqr  
Port Union P.O.,  
I. Sea born, -

Yours very truly,

John W. Kerr

P.O.

23. January 1875.

Postages  $\frac{4}{15}$  x

3 Post office Orders  $\frac{4}{80}$  x



Sir,

26, January 1875. --

In obedience to your order, I now send you a return giving the names of the licensees, who paid me during the past season of the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 1874. - Eight Hundred and forty six dollars. - This return will give you the date when the different amounts, comprising this sum was paid you. --

You will also please find at the foot of the return a memorandum which shows that a further <sup>sum</sup> of One Hundred and fifty eight dollars and  $\frac{25}{100}$  of was paid in also. - during the same period as fine and forfeitures.

Respectfully Submitted,

I Have &c.  
John W. Kent  
D.O.

Hon: Ministers  
F. F. F.  
Hawaii.

Saturday 30, January 1875. -  
At the Heights - and Bay - all regular -  
went out at 9, A.M. came in at 2 1/2 P.M.  
Miles 12. St Sleigh. 2.00.

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to find herewith, post office order, for forty dollars - to pay you up for services rendered in protecting Lynds Creek - during the spawning season - for Salmon in years 1873. and 1874. -

I hope you are all well, please remember that except a member of your own family no person can fish in any way in Lynds Creek, next spring.

Yrs sincerely,

James Storey Esq<sup>r</sup>

order

John W. Kerr

Guardian,

No 6016,

P. O.

Whitely P. O.

27. January 1875.

# Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January 1875. -

at B. Height the bay, and on as far as the Whiggo, and below Peter Styras, no person out fishing, went out at 8.30 a.m. came in at 3. p.m. Miles 20. H & Sleigh 2.00.

# Monday 1. February 1875. -

at B. bay - Collected six dollars for license fees for spawning - went out at 8. a.m. came in at 2. p.m. Miles 16. H & Sleigh, 2.00.

# Tuesday. 2. Feb: 1875. -

at the Height - went out at 2.30, p.m. came in at 5.30. p.m. Miles 12. H & Sleigh, 2.00.

My dear Sir,

It was with extreme regret that I read in the Mail - the sudden and accidental death of your Uncle - by a Railway Train at the Brockton crossing. - - I would have gone down, and accompanied you to his funeral, but I was appointed a Deputy Returning Officer here - at the election, and could not come down just then. - -

at A New fishery Officer - has been appointed at Collingwood. - I have been instructed to assist him in his duties. - -

I received from George Deane the enclosed note for the fifteen dollars. I was security to him for Paddy Staud - poor Paddy - has no money, but I have advanced it for him, as I feel at rest he will repay me, when he makes it. - -

I hope you and Mr Gray, are in good health, and recovered from the severe shock which the sudden calamity of your Uncle John Gray's death must have caused you. - -

All well here. - please get George to sign receipt on back of his note. - My kind respects to you both. - - believe me.

Very Sincerely,

John W. Kerr  
Hamilton, Onto.  
24. January 1875.

Mr J. Gray,  
122, Corner of Britton,  
and Sherburne Sts,  
Toronto,

Sir

11. January 1875.

I have now the honor to give you my general special report, as promised in the concluded words reporting the conviction, and fine imposed on Arthur Black, for having White fish in his possession at Bollingwood on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> day of November, and 30. of November last, "close season" which were fished up by his hands, on these respective dates.

In order to lay matters plain before you, I may here state that there are about 40 boats, fishing between Bollingwood and Cape Rich; each boat fishes 3 gangs of nets, each gang is 2500 yards; say; 7,500 yards to each boat, or 170 miles of gill nets fished by 40 boats within the distance between these given points altogether, which is considered excessive.

Mr. D. W. Port, told me the fishing there this season was good, better than for some years past, he ought to be a good judge, for he buys up the largest proportion of the fish caught there. With the exception of Mr. Alexander Black, fisherman - I believe all the fishermen about 70 there, fished in close season. - Arthur Black, endeavored, he told me, to prevent his Crews (2) from fishing in close season - but they scoffed at him, and would not stop fishing; and he has had to pay them 9. a piece, for those same White fish, I seized, confiscated, and sold - which they lifted, and fished up, on 27<sup>th</sup> 28<sup>th</sup>, and the 30<sup>th</sup> of November last.

In fishing up a gang of nets, I may here state it is taken on shore with the fish; while another gang of nets, is set out, so that you will please understand me, when I tell you that each boat, has two gangs of nets 5,000 yards in the water, always out fishing; while the fished up gang, remains on shore until the fishermen go out and fish up again. - when they take it out, and it set again, and another gang is fished up and brought on shore. -



Hawson W. Port, has a tug that runs in, and runs out, of the Harbour, of Collingwood: - he buys fish, and ships them continually all the time. . . .

Messrs. Belland and Clark, agreed with Charles Hobbs - and Mr. McDonald to pay the Indians of Christian Island \$20, for the privilege of fishing on their Reserve - last fall. . . . After their nets were set out, the Indians fished them up - cut the fish out of them, and damaged the nets; then threw the nets on the beach there, and it was only by great efforts, the fishermen managed, got them back again. . . . I heard Andrew Port, was there also. . . . And report has it, that this happened during the close season for white fish. . . . The Indians took 1500 Wh. fish, from the nets. . . .

Charles Hobbs, himself told me he fished 10,000 yards of net in his boat last season, and all for the small sum of five dollars! just think of it. . . . And some grumbled to pay this, for as (they) the fishermen say - Men below them don't pay at all! . . .

"The Offal of fish, when cleaned, and spoiled useless fish are thrown in the water in Collingwood Harbour, and left there to stink up the place instead of being buried away. . . .

When the Ice breaks up in Spring, several persons, fish herring gill nets at Collingwood, - who pay no license. - And they spoil the market of those, who pay the five dollars boat license, who fish besides their Wh. fish gill nets, about 1000 yards of Herring gill net. . . .

The fishermen, with whom I conversed told me Mr. Geo. S. Miller - Local Fishery Officer, never goes near them except to collect the five dollars from each boat. . . .

A man named Ward, fisherman and

fish dealer, sent away white fish last November, caught in close season. . . . One man told me he had no objection to be fined, if all were treated alike!! . . .

Arthur Clark, Charles Duffey, Robert Dougherty, James Noble, Charles Noble, (David Clarke and Wm. McLelland, partners), Wm. Shuter, Wm. Bishop, Robert Clelland - Alfred Montgomery - two men named Bowie's - Foley, and Dempsey, and also Donald, and Andrew Port, with their hands, it appears, have all fished during the close season for wh. fish last November, besides Van Black, at the mouth of the Ottawa-Peaga River. . . .

I may here mention for your information that Arthur Clark, told me, and Mr. Geo. S. Miller, that Dawson W. Port, abused him, because he found out Clarke was in communication with me at the Globe Hotel (there) Collingwood, during the forenoon of the 6<sup>th</sup> instant, before Geo. S. Miller arrived. . . .

Every person, in Collingwood I was told seems to know that white fish, were being caught there, during close season, last November, and that the same thing has been carried on year after year without let nor hindrance. . . . Finding on enquiries I made that this was the case, and that it could be proved by the Boat Owners, and fish owners and fish buyers. . . . I came to the conclusion in my own mind, just as soon as Mr. D. W. Port, handed in the affidavit of Nathan H. Miller his Agent - which he attempts to distinguish wh. fish caught in close season - from those caught before close season, and caught legally; - That I would proceed no further than, to prosecute but would report as I have done herewith, and ask for further instructions, I hope you will approve of this course I have taken. . . .

The fish dealers ship all their own fish on the Cars, from Collingwood by Express. - The Express - Messengers makes out his return on Board, from the Success, and addresses he puts on each barrel of fish. - - -

Mr. A. W. Port, fish dealer, told me he was aware, that I was coming to Collingwood, that a Mr. Collins - Light House Keeper had complained of the fishermen. - - If Mr. Collins, is implicated in doing so, he appears to be fully justified - however! I do not know him, and am not acquainted with him. - -

All the fish dealers had quantities of White fish in their possession when I was in Collingwood. - A. W. Port, & Co. had about 20,000, Wh. fish on hand. - -

The Express Messengers - I thought I would require in the Cars, where Conviction has taken place, had gone on the Toronto, Grey, and Bruce Railway, but I got along without him. - -

The Written proof, called for in your letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> instant, just received, please find herewith. - It is given to you Confidential. - -

I remain &c,  
John W. Lewis  
St. Lawrence

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.  
St. Lawrence.

Saturday, 13. Feb. 1875. -  
\* At B. Bay, to see Wesley Lee, enquired for him, but could not find him, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 4. p. m. 44 Stags 2.50. Miles 16. - -



Sir,

29. January 1875.

I have the honor to receive your official letter of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January, instant, notifying me, that the Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister has appointed Mr James Patton of Collingwood as Fishery Overseer - for that part of Georgian Bay, extending from Collingwood to Point Rich.

And that - "Any assistance or advice you may afford him - in the proper discharge of his duties will be thankfully received, connected of course with information and occurrences of which you are recently cognizant?"

In reply, - I beg most respectfully to state for your information - that I will do so, with much pleasure, and will proceed to Collingwood - for that purpose whenever you may think it expedient that I should do so. -

I have the honor to be,  
Yours faithfully,  
John W. Kent  
C. O.

\* Monday, 8, of February 1875. -

At Pt. St. George's & Pt. Rich found all regular - went out at 9. a.m. came in at 4.30. p.m. - Miles 29, S<sup>4</sup>W Sleigh 2.50.

\* Tuesday 16. Feb. 1875.

On Pt. Bay, down as far as Tilmanus - went out at 8.30. a.m. came in at 3.30. p.m. Miles 20, S<sup>4</sup>W Sleigh 2.50. -

\* Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1875. -

On Pt. Bay, and to see Wesley Lee. - went out at 9. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. - Miles 16, S<sup>4</sup>W Sleigh 2.50 - respecting his sister's residence at Rondeau. -



Sir,

13. January 1875. -

I have the honor to send you herewith the admission in writing of Mr John Van-Black, a fisherman at the mouth of the Pottowaug River, Georgian Bay, who admits he had small mesh nets, but pleads the excuse of not being guilty; in as much as he wrote you that all the fishermen at Collingwood had small mesh and illegal nets, as he wrote you. - -

Now the fact is! notwithstanding Mr John Van-Black's special pleading - two gangs of his gill nets containing 5,000 yards, were fished all last season. - - One gang of 2500 yards, fished in each of his boats, with two other gangs of legal g. nets. - - While Mr Van-Black was committing this illegal offence himself, he, I heard had complained to you of the fishermen at Collingwood for doing so. - - My informant in this case was Wm. Loring, of Toronto, who had fished one of Van-Black's boats last season; Malcolm Campbell of Stayner, fished the other boat, and during close season. - -

Mr Van-Black, you will please perceive by his letter to me makes the same admission - for fishing in close season, that the other fishermen already convicted have made; viz: "he could not get out to fish up". - - If you think it necessary, I can procure "privately" an affidavit from Wm. Loring, Toronto, giving all particulars. - - Before leaving Collingwood, I gave directions to Mr Geo. S. Miller, L. R. O. to go to Van-Black, and make enquiry into this matter, which I presume has now brought forth this letter from him to me, - and which I forward for your information. - - This is another proof, and admission in writing: - - from a fisherman

proving the truthfulness of the illegal fishing carried  
on in Georgian Bay, during close season, last Nov-  
ember. -

Respectfully Submitted.

I have, &c.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Ministers,  
&c. &c. &c.  
Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

My dear Sir,

I just heard that persons were  
spearing fish in the Grand River through the ice  
near Cayuga. - - please let me know if  
you have heard anything about. - - -

If attending the County Council this  
week, - you may have heard something  
about this. - - -

Yours very truly, -

Adam A. Davis Esq<sup>r</sup>  
&c. &c. &c.

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

York P. Office. -

30. January 1875. -

Thursday 18. February 1875. - - -

At Hamilton, London, Batham and Blenheim,  
on my way to Rondeau, to make enquires relative  
to Americans fishing there, went out at 6. A.M.,  
came in at 7. P.M. Miles 156. - , Riff fare 4.35.  
Stage 50<sup>+</sup>, dinner at London 65<sup>+</sup>, tea, and bed 50. - - -

Sir,

1. February 1875.

I have the honor to send you the copy of a Telegram. I received from Mr. Arthur Clark of Collingwood, on Saturday last - a fisherman there...

This telegram has reference to my report of the 19. of December last, conveying to you, that Mr. P. D. Bates - fish dealer was fined ten dollars and costs - for having those same white fish, thus secretly telegraphed for, from Hamilton, on the 25<sup>th</sup> of November last, <sup>close season</sup> and which were delivered to Bates - at Hamilton on 28. day of November last, - - - - - in his possession...

I presume I can get the original telegram from the Dominion telegram office here: - When the appeal comes up: - It will then be necessary to produce Mr. Arthur Clark, who sent the fish from Collingwood, upon the advice of this telegram; and the telegraph agent, who got it from P. D. Bates, and sent it to Mr. Clarke. -

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
J. W.

Hon. Minister,  
&c. &c. &c.  
Ottawa,

Telegrams at  
Ottawa 35 x  
Hamilton 1.00

Sir,

2. February 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank, Cheque No: 117, for the sum of \$23.50. of . . .

This amount you will please apply as License fees, for this current year.

1. Mr George Hutton, in the Niagara River, at Fort Erie, on ~~april~~ for current year. \$15.00
2. Jerry Hudson. - Spearing permit in B. bay. up to March 1<sup>st</sup>, next. } \$1.00.
3. Samuel Smoak. do. do. - \$1.00.
4. Aaron Baden. do. do. - \$1.00.
5. Joe Thompson. do. do. on ~~april~~ \$1.50.
6. Thomas Croft. do. do. \$1.00.
7. Chas. Briggs. do. do. \$1.00.
8. Fred<sup>d</sup> B. Starvey. do. do. \$1.00.
9. Joe Tate. do. do. \$1.00.
10. Chris Case. do. do. \$1.00.

Total, \$23.50

With much Respect.

I have &amp;c,

John W. Kern

J. O.

Hon. Ministe

H. H. H.

Ottawa,

Friday, 19. February 1875. - \$20.00

at Blenheim, thence to the Rideau, and accompanied by John McMichael saw Alfred Hartford, and John McDonald, on the ice thence to Switzer and got particulars, as per my report dated the 20<sup>th</sup>, thence back to Blenheim, Chatham, Thamesville, Bothwell, London, Woodstock, Paris, Harrisburg, and Home, went out 7. a. m., got home at 7. a. m. on 20<sup>th</sup>. Team &c. 7. - Ry fare 4.35 - miles, 180 dinner, breakfast, and tea 75, - refreshments 50.



My dear Sir,  
 Yours received! Come home - w  
 you will find me at the Victoria Insurance  
 Office, corner of Main and James St. of  
 Hamilton, - and where I will endeavour to do  
 all in my power to help you out of your  
 difficulties.

Yours faithfully,  
 R. A. Woodcock  
 Esq.

Yours sincerely,  
 John W. Kerr  
 7. Feb. 1875.

My dear Sir,

Yours just received. -  
 If the speckled trout - you refer to, have been  
 sent up from Quebec or Montreal - by Fraser  
 Hoy, - I may mention for your guidance  
 that they have the privilege of doing so,  
 because speckled trout are in season there,  
 at present. Just enquire, and if the dis-  
 crepancy is given - you cannot touch them. -

R. A. Woodcock Esq  
 Esq.

Yours sincerely  
 John W. Kerr  
 Esq.

12. Feb. 1875.

Confidential for Mr W. J. Whitchee, -  
Commissioner, -

Sir,

12. Feb. 1875. -

I have the honor to send you a letter received only this day by me - by which you will learn what is now being carried on by Foreign fishermen at the Roudeau Lake Erie. -

My Son-in-law - is the daughter of Mr Charles Lee - an ex. Alderman of this City. and the letter was written to her brother Mr Wesley Lee, who sent it to me this day. -

I send it at once to you, that you may advise me in the matter. -

I Have &c.

W. J. Whitchee Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Commissioner,  
Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
D. O.

Tuesday, 23. Feb. 1875. - -

On B. Bay, Collected Spearing licenses from John Lyons, #1. - Benjamin Brickmore #1. Samuel Chisholm #1. - George Bent #1. - Thos. Jones, #1. - John Bates #1. - Wm Bates, #1. - others promised to pay. went all over the Bay, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 5.30. p. m. - Miles about 32. Horse and sleigh #3.00 & Fred Kerr with me. -

Sir,

12. Feb: 1845.

With reference to my letter to you of the 11<sup>th</sup> of December last, touching the sale of the Dundas Marsh to private individuals; - It being so immediately connected with B. bay, at the head of which it formed the now valuable natural fish breeding places, as feeders to the water of said bay, of which it forms a part, and is connected thereto at all times by the navigable waters of the Desjardins Canal, running out of it, into the bay, under the G. W. Railway, at the B<sup>n</sup>. Straights . . . .

I strongly recommended this matter then, to your Judgement, and Consideration, to be acted promptly upon by you in preventing the sale which I now feel gratified has been successfully attended to by you so far . . . .

During the past week however! no less than five different applications have been made to me by Mr John Simmons, and his son Henry, and Colonel Wm McFevre in his behalf, inducing me to withdraw this letter, I addressed to you, and wanting me to write Mr Amelius Irving, M. P. who has been acting, as Mr John Simmons atty to obtain the sale of this Marsh for him from the Local Prov<sup>l</sup> Government. Toronto . . . This I can never do, because I am persuaded that if Mr Irving, knew as much of this valuable natural fish breeding portion of the Marsh, (which Mr John Simmons, and his sons are strenuously endeavouring to get a deed of) to the <sup>best</sup> general public of Hamilton, as I do - he would never interfere in separating it from B. bay, by aiding a sale of it, to this solitary inhabitant of this City Mr John Simmons . . . Such a purchase as now attempted to be carried into effect

will both interfere with Fisheries rights - and, I have -  
 gable rights, which I strongly recommended in every in-  
 stance, ought to be maintained inviolate by the depart-  
 ment . . . .

Mr John Simons, even went so far as to get Col;  
 McFivren to speak to me in his favour, but when I  
 explained to the Colonel what ~~John~~ Simons object  
 had been, and when the Col. compared it with the  
 object, the elder Mr John Simons told him he had  
 in getting the marsh. The Col. told me I was right  
 in the object, I have in view . . .

The City of Hamilton, with 32,000, inhabitants  
 besides the town of Dundas yearly increasing in  
 population made strong efforts last year by petitions  
 regarding the rights of the petitioners to the fisheries  
 of B. Bay, and Dundas Marsh. - The petition so  
 far as the Marsh was concerned was <sup>very properly</sup> then ~~asked~~  
 to be by you . . . This has made such an im-  
 pression upon my mind, that in whatever I  
 can do, for the citizens of Hamilton in protecting  
 the fishery rights, for the department, it is my  
 bounden duty to do . . . .

H. Marsh, and B. Bay, never grow, but fish  
 do grow, and increase therein annually needs your  
 fostering care. - And the people of Hamilton, and  
 growing too, in population continually, to con-  
 sume these fish - as wholesome food . . . .

I therefore respectfully hope that I have  
 urged sufficient to you to stop the sale of  
 this valuable natural fish Breeding reserve,  
 which has been protected by our laws, and  
 regulations of the Fisheries Department for  
 scores of years back to the people of  
 Hamilton, and Dundas . . .

Hon. Minister -

H. H. H.

I Have &

John W. Kern

H. H.



Sir

23, January 1875. -

I have the honor to report for your information, that in completing my statistical returns, for the year ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 1874, submitted for your consideration herewith; you will please find that my district was curtailed in its limits during this season by you, and now extends from the west end of the County of Elfrink on Lake Erie - to Whitby Harbour, which is situated on Lake Ontario, in the South Riding of Ontario. - Besides that portion of East Egin, between Glenlock Creek, and Pt Stanley, also situated on Lake Erie. - - -

During the close time for pickerel, between the 15<sup>th</sup> of April, and 1<sup>st</sup> of May last, in the Niagara River, I was obliged to have several persons fined for violating the Fisheries Act, in this respect; and on the 2<sup>d</sup> of May last at Fort Erie, the fines <sup>imposed</sup> were remitted to the Department in the usual way, amounting to \$45, still leaving a balance of \$5, to be paid in to you. - - -

I was also obliged to seize nets and boats at the Town of Niagara, and I fined five fishermen there, who were guilty of fishing white fish gill nets of small meshes in contravention of the Act. My report of 20 June last, and subsequent reports will have fully explained to you this matter. - I sent you these fines, \$10, on 22, of June last. - - -

With regard to the order in Council suspending the prohibition against seining for white fish during the months of June and July last. - when you were pleased to instruct me: "These provisions of the law you will rigidly enforce, and should any one attempt to violate them - You will impose fines, and confiscate their nets, for nonob-  
servance of the law." - - -

I have now the honor to report in the strongest manner against seining for white fish, or any other fish, being permitted in Lake Ontario, at Pt. Beach,

any more, please read my report of 23. of June 1874. -

I may now add to this report, from reliable information of truthful persons, that every opportunity was resorted to, by the fishermen on B. Beach last June and July, when I was absent from there, to commit contraventions of the Fisheries Act, by catching small white fish, and running them in Waggon to remote parts of the Country, where they were sold as the choicest description of Herring: And in one or two instances, they were taken back I recently (heard) learned, and were buried beneath the sands on B. Beach. - - -

My warm desire, wish, and recommendation therefore is, now; that no more seining for Wh. fish, nor herring, be permitted at Toronto Island, Yates Gulley, and Frenchmans bay; and on that part of B. Beach, south of the canal, for the next five years. - - - But that gill net fishing of full five inch meshes for white fish, and 2½ inch extension measure St. g. nets, be substituted for all seines instead. - - I have no hesitation in giving you the names of Dan. McEwyna, and Ben. Golds, of B. Beach, fishermen, the most blameable in this contravention of the Fisheries Act. - - -

My several reports, since 10<sup>th</sup> of June 1873, will have shown you, that a new kind of new fish supposed to be shad, had made their appearance in Lake Ontario. - - Upon a sample of these fish, being submitted recently by me, to your Commissioner, Mr. W. J. Whitchee, for scientific examination, Mr. Whitchee, has without hesitation declared the said fish to belong to the fresh water herring tribe.

They sell at St. Catharines, for a ¢ a piece. - -

During the past season, a petition largely signed, by about 600. persons, including your members of parliament, the Mayor's and leading respectability of the City of Hamilton, <sup>and town of Dundas,</sup> was presented to you, praying that no net fishing be permitted in

B. Bay, nor Dundas Marsh". - This petition you kindly permitted to be carried into effect, to a very large extent, only permitting pike gill nets, +5, in number, and three seines for rough fish, to be used within, a certain limited portion of the Bay, which has been strictly carried out. - I can however foresee that B. Bay, and Dundas Marsh, will have to be ultimately laid apart, for the Citizens of Hamilton, exclusively, for angling purposes, under the restriction of the Act, who are annually increasing in number, at a rapid pace. - -

The demand by the Citizens, for these places of recreation and amusement, I may at some future day, have much pleasure in recommending may be taken into your favourable consideration. - -

During this season, the Local Gov<sup>t</sup> Toronto, have leased B. Beach for a term of years, to the Corporation of the City of Hamilton, reserving the fisheries, over which that Government, has no Control, and squatter rights to the fishermen, and people who live thereon, and own the property. - - I have had a tracing made from the Surveyors plan and survey of B. Beach - for the department, which I will send you in a few days. - - -

As regards pike gill nets, being continued to be fished on, at the lower end of Toronto Bay, and Ashbridges Bay - Toronto, - I beg most respectfully to recommend that the same may be altogether discontinued after the season of 1875, and that the seining for suckers, and other rough fish at the Bend, Maskinonge point, and Black House, be the only seine fishing permitted there after this season of 1875. - I include this season, so as to give fishermen there, a chance of fishing out the pike gill nets, at present on their hands. - - -



### White fish Seizures. ---

On the 30. day of December last, and the 1<sup>st</sup> of December last, at Hamilton, I seized, confiscated, and sold 14 Barrels of Wh. fish that were shipped here from Collingwood by Railway; and that were caught in the Georgian bay, during the close season, in Contention of the Fisheries Act. ---

fifty dollars, for which these fish were sold, I sent to the Department, on the 18. of December 1874; subsequent proceedings ordered by the Department against the persons who shipped the fish ended thus far in fines being imposed on the 6<sup>th</sup> instant, by the Local Fishery Board, at Collingwood, Mr George S. Miller, with whom by your Order, I was associated as my reports of 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> instant, will have given you more fully all particulars. ---

### Salmon. ---

As reported to you by me, on the 20. of June last, five Salmon were caught in hauling seines, during the season. --- These small incidents, indicate to me, that Salmon in Ontario, are on the increase. ---

### The River Credit. ---

Mr James G. Wilcox, Guardian, at 10<sup>th</sup> Credit reported to me, that every day - from 10<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> of December last, between the Indian Village, and Springfield, he saw Salmon both large and small, in numbers on the rapids and in deep holes, in this river. --- On two occasions, he wrote me, he observed grise, in numbers each time - about 200. ---

### The Skyland Creek. ---

Mr Joseph Moon, Guardian - saw only two Salmon, during last fall. --- The water was very low in this Creek. --- The mouth being



barred up by the storms, from the Lake - Ontario, had to be repeatedly opened. -- Three beds were discovered by him up near Clawsom's Old dam. --

### The Rouge. --

Big Salmon were observed in the Big Rouge between Eaton's Mill, and Kilpatrick's Mill, which is about one mile above the Kingston Road Bridge over the Rouge. -- <sup>It was reported to me by</sup> Charles White, M<sup>rs</sup> Van-horn, Maxwell, and Harry Moon, saw the fish and big Salmon beds, the water was very low on the rapids there, last fall. --

### Duffin's Creek. --

Considering the very low state of the water in the creek, last fall, the show of Salmon was excellent, about 120 Parent Salmon from time to time, were in this Creek, during the spawning season, and were observed daily and nightly on the beds, <sup>and in deep water</sup> by M<sup>rs</sup> Moses Smith, and the two Guardians, the place, where the Salmon was, which is limited, within a distance of about half a mile. -- The water was so low in the creek, this season, and last fall, that no fish could go further up the creek, than the Road Br<sup>y</sup>, near the Mill. --

A very large Salmon upwards of 40 pounds made its appearance in Duffin's Creek, last fall, and the other Parent Salmon varied from ten to twenty five pound weight each. -- And on one particular day, there were about 100 grise observed in the deep water of the creek between Key's Bridge, and the Rd<sup>y</sup> Br<sup>y</sup> near the mill, already referred to. --

M<sup>rs</sup> Moses Smith, the present guardian, to preserve, and protect the fish more securely, when his mill was not working, passed the surplus water through the mill, instead of over the tumbling dam, as heretofore, and thereby confined the Salmon, under his own immediate view and observation during the day time. --

The mouth of Duffin's Creek, had to be opened on several occasions to permit the fish <sup>to come</sup> in, from Lake Ontario. ---

### Synds Creek. -

With regard to Salmon, being last fall, in this Creek - the Guardian Mr. James Storey, reported to me: - "I take great pleasure in informing you that Salmon have made their appearance at the mouth of Synds Creek this fall. - I first observed them on the 28<sup>th</sup> of October. - I have made a palisade for them to get up, and kept the mouth of the Creek constantly opened. ---

I may here state for your information that the same Wilkes Fish Breeding Establishment, Newcastle - Ontario, sent me several thousand Salmon fry, which were deposited in the 12 mile Creek, at Bronte, formerly a Salmon River, still emptying its water into Lake Ontario, at Bronte. -

I was induced by Mr. George Roach - the present Mayor of Hamilton, with Mr. John Davis, Fish dealer, and Messrs. Patrick Staud, and John Staud, fishermen, to exhibit fish at the Central Fair, held here the early part of October last, which proved a complete success. We obtained a prize. - Reported to you by me, on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October 1874. ---

With respect to the construction of fishways in the dams of the Grand River, and its tributaries my report to you, of the 24, of November last, and the Return of fishways accompanying the same will have already shown you what was done by Mr. Henry Griffith - the local Engineer, at Brantford, and me, in this direction. ---

In Conclusion, I have the honor to report, I have collected as fees for license during the season just ended, the sum of <sup>46</sup> (846) eight hundred and forty six dollars, and

for fine and forfeitures, a further sum of  $\$158.25$  -  
 One hundred and fifty eight dollars  $\frac{25}{100}$  cents. -  
 making in all,  $\$1004.25$  sent in during the  
 past season. - I may finally say; that there is  
 other outstanding license fees, which, when collected  
 the coming spring, will be instantly forwarded  
 to you. - The past season, on the whole has not been  
 as good or as beneficial to some fishermen, as  
 previous seasons have been, owing to continued  
 boisterous stormy weather, but on the whole  
 the prices obtained for the fish, have been remuner-  
 ative. - - The fishermen in most instances, continue  
 to improve, and are much better off, in many  
 respects, than they were ten years ago, when I  
 was first honored with my appointment, as  
 your Fishery Overseer. - -

With my profound respect, -  
 I have, &c. &c. &c.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
 The Minister of  
 Marine and Fisheries,  
 Ottawa,

John W. Kerr  
 P.O.  
 Hamilton Division.

Sunday, 28. Feb: 1895.  
 at B. Heights - thence on the Bay, down as  
 far as B. Beach - found Young Park, and  
 another boy in a fish house, out in front of  
 Second Inlet - they were not fishing - I or-  
 dered them home - as they had no business  
 to be out there on Sunday. - went out at  
 9. a.m. came in at 3. p.m. - Mile 30. -  
 Hand Sleigh 3.00. Charles J. Kerr. with me..



Confidential for Mr. W. F. Whitches - Commissioner.

Sir,

4. March 1875. -

I have the honor to report for your information, that on Tuesday evening last, I received privately information that during close season last November at Collingwood for White fish, - a <sup>boat</sup> ~~boat~~ steamed out into the Georgian Bay, and in daily with from 6 to 10 fishing boats to set, and fish up gill nets. - - -

Each boat during the said close season caught from 6,000, to 8,000, White fish. - - -

When in Toronto, yesterday, I got more important information, so that when I am able to get up to Collingwood - I shall be well prepared to go further on with the enquiry as you suggested. - -

This was told me in confidence and came indirect from Dawson Port. - - -

I have &c.

W. F. Whitches Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Commissioner of Fisheries.  
Ottawa.

John H. Kerr  
J. H.

Tuesday, 2. March 1875. -

at the Straits - and over B. Bay - the snow so disagreeable - had to get off - after being round rock bay and Willow Point. - got out from John Holmes on a job of spearing. Went out at 9. A. M. came in at 5. P. M. Mile 20. Mr. Sleigh - Charles J. Kerr with me - 2.50.



Sir.

3, March 1875. -

In obedience to your instructions of the 26<sup>th</sup> ultimo, I proceeded this day, to Toronto, and I found Speckled Trout on hand, and offered for sale, and was present when a pound weight was sold in the game, fish and fruit store of Mrs Wm Bilton, King St. East - Toronto for 25<sup>th</sup> cents. - - -

Mrs Bilton, received during the month of February last, from A. Fraser & Co. - of Quebec, 3 Barrels of Speckled Trout; some of which are still on hand. - - -

I endeavoured to see the Invoices, but was unable to do this, as the Book Keeper was absent. - - -

A sister of Mrs Bilton, who attends as Sales - woman, told me that a farmer from the back Country was in the store - prior to Christmas last, wishing to know how much she would give a pound for Speckled Trout - but her reply was! - it was contrary to law, in Province of Ontario, and she warned him as to the consequences of breaking the law. - - -

I then visited the establishment of Mr Wm Taylor, No: 94, Young St. Toronto, found Speckled Trout were received there on three occasions, during the month of January last, packed in boxes with the frozen Salmon - the Shopman, however could only find for me, the Invoices of two lots, viz: -

3. January 1875, 47 pounds Speckled Trout.

22. do. do. 30. do. do. - - -

The Invoice of the third lot, he was unable to find. - - They were all received from A. Fraser & Co. - Quebec. - - -

Mr Taylor, has no Speckled Trout, at present on hand, sold all at 25<sup>th</sup> Cents per pound. - -

I then attended my way to Messrs Wright, and Widgey, corner of Young, and Richmond Streets - Toronto - they had a quantity of speckled trout on hand, and were selling them at 25 Cents, per pound. . . .

They received three consignments this season from James C. and Co. Jordan, of Montreal, but was only able to produce to me Invoices for two of them: viz.

1<sup>st</sup> February 1875. - 1. Barrel, Speckled Trout. -

18. February 1875. - 2. Barrels, Speckled Trout.

These are the only persons in Toronto, <sup>from A. Grasse & Co.</sup> and as you are aware, are residents of Quebec and Montreal, in the Province of Quebec. . . .

I understand from Mr. John Davis - fish dealer here - who received a barrel of speckled trout, from James C. and Co. Jordan - of Montreal, during the month of February, that they are brothers in law of A. Grasse - Quebec. -

Great indignation felt, all over Province of Ontario, because Province of Quebec, are allowed to catch speckled trout, when Ontario is not. . .

This acts as an incentive to lead people in Province of Ontario to break the present law with respect to close season for speckled trout; All of which is most respectfully Submitted. -  
I Have &c.

Hon: Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries  
Ottawa.

John H. Hall,  
H. Grasse.

Bals. - 1.10.

\* Wednesday, 3, March 1875. —

At Toronto, making enquiries about the receipt and sale of speckled, from Quebec, and Montreal, went out at 8 a.m., came in at 8 p.m. — miles 96. S<sup>t</sup> & sleigh <sup>#</sup>2.50. Railway fare 2.60 — dinner and tea 80. — — — See my report to the Minister on this subject. — — —

Friday 5, March 1875, — — —

\* At B. beach and the Heights, on Bay — all night went out. S<sup>t</sup> & sleigh <sup>#</sup>3.00. Mile 24. Charles J. Kerr went with me. — went out at 9 a.m. came in at 4.30 p.m. —

\* Saturday, 6, March 1875. —

On B. bay, all night, went out at 2.30 p.m. Came in at 6 p.m. Mile 24. Horse and sleigh — 3.00, C. J. Kerr with me. —

\* Monday, 8, March 1875. —

On B. Heights — and B. bay — warning the spearing fishermen — that all spearing would terminate on the 15, instant — when fish House would have to be taken off the ice, went out at 9 a.m. Came in at 3.30 p.m. — mile 18. — H. and sleigh 2.00, C. J. Kerr, with me. —

Wednesday 10, March 1875.

\* At B. bay — got 7 B. hals, from John Bates, two from George Williams, three from Duncan, McMillivray, and six from John George, went out at 12.30, came in at 6 p.m. — mile 24, H. & sleigh 2.50. — —

Sir,

6. March 1875.

I have the honor to report for your information that Mr. George Lee - fish, game and fruit, Merchant, Hamilton, is at present selling fresh Salmon he received here from British Columbia, -- I don't know what the law is, as regards this fish; and of course I'm report - in order to show you that it has attracted some attention. -- Please see News - paper notice attached. --

It differs widely from A. Fraser & Sons' fresh Salmon, caught in the Massie in proper season. --

I Have &amp;c,

John W. Kent

P.O. --

Hon. Minister

&amp;c. &amp;c. &amp;c.

Ottawa.

10. March 1875. --

Sir, I have the honor to report for your information, that Messrs J. H. Birley & Co., of this City, are now engaged building an extensive Hotel - on B. Beach - to replace the Tavern there - formerly occupied by Mrs. Joan Baldry, burned down last December. --

Messrs J. H. Birley & Co., as Licensees occupy fishing station Nos. 1, and 2, in B. Bay, and fishing station Nos. 18, and 19, in Lake Ontario, on the B. Beach. --

I Have &amp;c,

John W. Kent

P.O.

Hon. Minister,

&amp;c. &amp;c. &amp;c.

Ottawa.



"Private."

My dear Sir,

8. March 1875.

Yours respecting the appointment of Mr Henry Laws - of Dunville - as surveyor for the J. River where he will act in conjunction with Griffiths, ...  
 "In order to make their limits what they should be, so as to render the service on that stream more effective, we want you to give us your idea about the division." - Is received, and I beg most fairly to recommend that Mr Henry Laws Griffiths of Brantford, have that portion of the J. River and tributaries, west of the Railway Bridge over the J. River at Caledonia. ...

And that Mr Henry Laws, of Dunville, have all that portion of J. River, above the dam and waste gate at Dunville and Haldimand, and up the River to the Railway Br; at Caledonia. - If Mr L. can establish and rent fishery's the entire length of the J. River herein limited. ...

And I hope unless there is something better in store for me that I be still allowed to retain that portion of J. River below the dam and waste gates at Dunville, and Haldimand. ... The fisheries there were established by me in connection with the Lake Erie, and J. River fishery at Port Maitland. ...

I urge this, because I expect consideration from you, and Mr Whitchee in this matter. ...

My return of Licenses sent in will show fifty dollars for years ending 31. of December 1874. ...

Besides application for license for this current year, have already been made to me in this portion of J. River. I desire to still retain with your approbation. - With due respect,

S. R. Ouseley  
 Jr. Clerk -  
 Ottawa,

Yrs Truly  
 John W. Kerr  
 J. O.

Sir,

8. March 1875. -

With reference to my report of 6. instant accompanying the tracing of B. Beach, I have now the honor to send you the plan of that portion of the Beach lying between what is presumed to be the old Outlet, and the main land referred to therein, and laid off in Village lots, and sold by public auction at the instance of Mr Benjamin Rogers of W<sup>m</sup> Square, on the 23 of September 1874. This plan is dated, Hamilton 19, September 1874. -

I have just heard from S. G. Largie Esq of the firm of Largie & White, Barristers &c. &c. Hamilton, acting for Mr Ben<sup>g</sup> Rogers, that he recently had a letter from Amelia's Trustees Esq<sup>s</sup> M<sup>r</sup> P. - respecting the claim by the H. department, to one claim from the waters of Lake Ontario, of this portion of the B. Beach laid off in Village lots, situated in front of what has been known as fishing station No. 23, in Lake Ontario, on B. Beach. -

I also send you a second plan, which amongst other things, shows this portion of B. Beach. It is dated - Hamilton, April 27, 1874. -

I send you these plans so that you may be in a position to judge of this B. Beach locality to yourself,

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
Minister. -

I Have &c.  
John W. Kent  
J. O.

*Sw.*

6. March 1875.

I have the honor to send you a tracing of B. Bach, L. Ontario,  
particulars given in my letter of 1<sup>st</sup> of Aug<sup>y</sup> 1874, to Robt<sup>...</sup> Chisholm  
Esq<sup>r</sup>, &c, &c, Hamilton - Copy of which I sent you as re=  
quested on 28. of August 1874. - -

This plan, I presume will be of service to the Dept.  
Ottawa, it fairly represents B. B. Ch. -

I have a few remarks to make about this plan:—  
First:—I may inform you that that portion of B. Bch lying between the Old Outlet, and the Main Land, was sold off in Village lots, by Mr Benjamin Eager, of 14<sup>th</sup> Square, last fall.— Mr Eager—bought from the late deceased Simon Kery.— Since this sale has taken place, difficulties are likely to arise about Mr Eager's right to sell the usual Chanin allowance reserve along the beach from the water's edge of L. Ontario occupied by the fishermen, for more than 60 years, for fishing purposes, because like all the rest of B. Bch this part of B. Bch has always been an open Common having on one side L. Ontario, with fishing station No: 23, and on the opposite side—Kerry Pond—set apart, &c, and fishing station No: 7, in B. bay.— with a zig, zag road running across Bch.— Bch not fenced.— The Beach still in its primitive state, and position, as it was when Shant got his grant from the Crown, and so it has remained up to this present time. . . .

I have not seen the Lease the City of Hamilton  
has obtained from the Prov. Govt., Toronto, of B. Bch  
but I am impressed with the Convention, that you  
should have a copy of it, for hereafter reference, in  
connection with this plan, and my reports of 1<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>  
of Aug<sup>r</sup> 1874, already referred to. —

I send you the Prigyan receipt for 50. for making  
this tracing for you - which is very cheap, for such a  
valuable document, please let me have this amount  
for him - With due respect. -

Non. Minista. 6

I have to. John W. Kern.  
St. G.



Sir,

9. March 1875.

I have the honor to submit for your Consideration the application No. 1 - of Sheriff Leslie Munro, of St Thomas, to lease the fisheries at Port Bruce, in Lake Erie - for a term of 9 years at forty dollars per year. - This fishery when I first took charge of it, was not very productive, but my attention thereto, has improved it considerably.

The Sheriff, and I discussed this matter last December, when it was arranged that I should recommend a lease to issue to him for the fishery at Port Bruce, as per limits described in his application, No. 1 - herewith, at the annual rental of forty dollars. - -

The Mr. Moore referred to is the Sheriff's father-in-law, the Sheriff and he own the beach property there alluded to. - -

I believe a lease, such as the Sheriff applies for, will stop much bickering carried on there annually, which I have settled without reference to Head Quarters. -

By another letter No. 2, I received today, you will please perceive the Sheriff is desirous of getting the license at once. - - -

From the conversation I have had with him, he means to employ the fishermen who fished there last year, to fish for him. - - -

I sent you 3<sup>rd</sup> license fees, from these fisheries for last year. - Submitted & respectfully recommended. - - - I Have &c,

John W. Kent,  
J. W. K.



Dear Sir,

No. 1. -

St. Thomas, 7. Dec. 1874.

I beg to apply for the fishery, at Port Bruce Lake, for a period of 9 years, for which I agree to pay a rental of \$40 a year. - - -

Said fishery to commence at Silver Creek, on the east, and extend two miles west of Pt. B<sub>3</sub> Harbour, including Catfish Creek, as far as the cut, and extending two miles into the Lake. -

I have made arrangements with Mr. Stone, the owner of the beach, so that in the event of my getting a lease from the department there will be no difficulty on that account. - I may also add that I shall endeavour to carry out the Fishery laws, as strictly as possible. -

J. W. Kerr Esq  
Inspector of Fisheries,  
Hamilton. -

I am yours truly  
Colin Munro. -

\* Thursday, 11. March 1875. -

On B. day - warning people to remove fish Houses after Monday next, went out at 9.30. A. M. came in at 5. P. M. Miles 28. H. and Sleigh \$3.00, John Baker, George Binkley - paid me one dollar each for permit for spearing. -

Telegram, \$1.50, +

Stationery - 2.50, +

Railway Fare - for travelling 3.50, +  
paid charges on fish \$1.00, +

No. 2.

J. W. Kerr Esq  
 Insp. of Fisheries  
 Hamilton.

Sheriff's Office, St. Thomas. -  
 8, March 1875. -

My dear Sir,

as fishing will soon  
 commence, I am very anxious this matter shall be  
 put in a proper shape. -

I do not wish to trouble you too much,  
 but am anxious to learn whether there is any trouble  
 to be overcome - at Ottawa - If so Mr McDougall,  
 our representative will assist in getting things put  
 through right, should there be any necessity. - -

I wrote you some time since but have not  
 had any reply from which I infer you must be  
 gone home. -

I am yours truly,

Colin Munro

Received following Telegram, -

Ottawa, 11, March 1875. -

J. W. Kerr, (

Help? Wood and Irving apply  
 on behalf of citizens to extend spearing time till  
 ice breaks up, what date would you recom-  
 mend if favourable to any further extension. -

W. J. Whitcher.

Answer: 11, March 1875. -

Recommended up to, and including  
 the 31. of March. - -

Do you want a British Columbia  
 Salmon, 50¢ a pound. - - Fresh and mag-  
 nificent. -

John W. Kerr

W. J. Whitcher  
 J. dept.

① Home.

My dear Madame. -

Your letter of 11<sup>th</sup> instant, is just received. - - -

You have my heart felt sympathy, in your sad misfortune. - - I purpose coming by just train from here to Fort Erie - on Monday next. You will find me after my arrival at the William Hall, Hotel. - where I will be glad to talk with you and Mr. Laidlaw, about the matter you refer to. -

Yrs Respectfully.

Joh<sup>n</sup> W<sup>illiam</sup> Stearns  
Y. Overseer.

Mrs Mary A. Harris. -  
307 - Hamburg St.  
Buffalo - N. S.

13. March 1875.

Friday 12 - Henry Semmens - gave me O'Keefe's map of Dundas Marsh to have a tracing of it made for W. J. Whitchee Esq<sup>r</sup> Commissioner of Fisheries - Ottawa - gave it to Frank to make it. - -

Monday 15. March 1875. - - -

\* at S. Bridge, Fort Erie Buffalo, to settle matters about the fisheries there. please my reports, - dated 17. March 1875. - - Ry fare to the Bridge and back \$2.90 & Bridge to Buffalo 75.  
Street Car 10<sup>¢</sup>, Jerry 10<sup>¢</sup>, Dinner and tea 30<sup>¢</sup>, Ry fare from Fort Erie, to S. Bridge 50<sup>¢</sup>. - Took down the names of persons fishing hooks for pickeral, and complaints agt<sup>st</sup> persons taking bait. -  
George Stratten paid me ten dollars balance of rent. Capt. Treble gave me five dollars beef fine on Rogers and Fred<sup>o</sup>. - 130 -  
W. S. High home 2.00 went out at 7.30 a.m.  
- in at 1.00 p.m. - 16. March 1875. -

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 11. instant, just received, I will endeavour to be in Fort Erie, by the first Train from here on Monday next; While Mrs Harris and family have my heart felt sympathy in the loss of her House, and the continued illness of her Husband, I must come and ascertain personally - particularly, before I can recommend what she requires me to do. . .

In her great misfortune, I shall do nothing to prejudice her Case. . .

I am much obliged to you for looking after the interest of the fisheries. I will bring the Act with me, so as to punish the parties you allude to, by imposing a fine. —

When I come to Fort Erie, I will stop at the W. Hall Hotel. And I have written Mrs Harris, from whom I also received a letter to meet me there. —

Believe me, My dear Sir,

Yrs Truly, —

John W. Kerr

F. O.

13. March 1875.

Helson Forsyth Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Fort Erie.



Sir.

13. March 1875.

I am in haste to receive yours of the 10<sup>th</sup> instant and in reply to your lengthy, and persuasive observations respecting the law for the protection of speckled trout in the Province of Quebec; I am fully in accord with your views altogether, - But as regards the Province of Ontario, pardon me, when I say, that I differ materially from you. . . .

You say: "When the close season for Ontario was made so much longer than in Quebec, the Department conceived it desirable in view of the fact, that too many of the waters of Ontario, in which speckled trout are found are small in extent, and being in more settled districts, or otherwise more accessible, are exposed to greater danger throughout the milder winter seasons further west." -

In reply to these remarks, I fully concur in all particulars. . . .

You further say: "If this be the cause of indignation in Ontario, it can be easily remedied: - If the trout are done spawning in Ontario, before the 30<sup>th</sup> of April, there is no reason why the regulation should not be amended so as to allow of catching them, when they are in marketable condition, the same as in Quebec." - "Please state your opinion." -

In reply to this clause, <sup>please excuse me for saying</sup> my opinion is astounded, that Mr. Whitaker signed his name to <sup>part of</sup> it, for it is notorious that speckled trout all over the Province of Ontario, spawn during the same period, as they do, in the Province of Quebec, and the entire spawning of speckled trout, is completely over by the 10<sup>th</sup> of November, more generally by 31<sup>st</sup> of October each year. . . .

I have however known an instance, it happened in the fall speckled trout establishment, before it burst up. - These fish, there were still spawning during the month of December, caused as I considered by neglect, and inattention: - The fish getting down to a state of starvation, and dire extremity, by the

want of proper food and nourishment. . . .

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 1872, I was at Stillburg, in the township of Erin - County of Wellington, and I had an opportunity then, while examining one of the Western branches of the River Credit, passing through a thick cedar swamp of seeing speckled trout, on the spawning beds, without these fish observing me; I just reported this matter to you, on the 24<sup>th</sup> of October 1872. Thus! - I examined some of the feeders of the ~~River~~ Credit River, where I saw a large quantity of Trout playing on the spawning beds. - This I give you as proof positive from personal observation of what I saw, and know to be the facts of the case. . . .

The speckled trout I saw on this occasion, came up this creek, running through the Cedar swamp to spawn - came out of the Minto - Mill pond, to which they would return again after spawning, this is generally the case. . . .

The spawning with speckled trout, is just as rapid some season, as it is with Salmon. . . . The spawning of all kinds of fish, is regulated <sup>see the eggs round</sup> by the state of the Moon, and influence of the weather. . . .

And as the law is in Quebec, so should it be <sup>the law</sup> in Ontario, save and except; that from the causes alleged by you, and the fact of great numbers of these fish accumulating in the deep holes of the streams, and mill ponds and small lakes in Ontario, they frequent during the winter, where they would be more easily caught and altogether used out, particularly from the fact I presume, that in such places the food of these fish becoming scant. - particularly in small streams the fish themselves may get out of condition. . . .

But otherwise I would recommend that the close season in Ontario should terminate on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of January, instead of the 30<sup>th</sup> of April as at present fixed. . . .

Besides this would be a great boon, and benefit to all the people north in the newly settled townships where speckled trout I have heard are just as numerous, as they are in the Province of Quebec.

With due respect. -

I Have &c

W. J. Whitcher Esq  
Commissioner of Fisheries.  
Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

My dear Sir. -

I Congratulate you on your appointment - as Quaffer - for the Credit River - at fifty dollars per year. - - It is some time since this was communicated to me - Meet at the station next Monday - by first passenger train to Toronto. - Keep your eyes open my old friend.

Mr Jas: G. Wilcox  
J. O. Quaffer.  
Port Credit.

Yrs sincerely. -  
John W. Kerr  
J. O.

Postage stamps <sup>4</sup> 24. X

My dear Sir,

19, March 1875,

I have just had a communication from the department of Marine and Fisheries - notifying me of your appointment as Overseer for that part of the Grand River, extending from the mouth thereof to the village of Laledonia, and instructing me to afford you all the assistance and advice in my power to enable you to efficiently perform the duties of such office. -

I may here state for your information - that it will at all times give me much pleasure to do this. And when other engagements on hand are disposed of, say, about Easter Tuesday - I will drop down to Dunville, and see you. - I recently heard, that persons have been spearing fish occasionally, during the winter in the Grand River - about six miles below Cayuga, please ascertain their names, and when I come down, you, and I, will dispose of the cases according to the Provisions of the Act. - And will also give the license at Dunville, - Cayuga Mr Kelly, and York, for the current year. - With due respect,

Henry Lawrence Esq<sup>r</sup>  
D. Overseer,  
Dunville R. Office,

Yrs sincerely  
John W. Kent  
D. O.



Sir,

19. March 1875. -

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank  
Cheque No: 163, for the sum of twenty five dollars. -

This amount you will be pleased to apply as  
follows; for the year 1875. -

1. Mr. John Everett of Victoria Village. township  
of Bertie - for fishing license in the Niagara River, &  
see copy of same herewith. -

With due respect,

I Have &c.

John W. Kent  
J.O.

Hon. Minister,

&c. &c. &c.

Yours,

My dear Sir,

Your letter received - you can have  
the fishing you apply for, west of Port Stanley Har-  
bour - for ten dollars, being a resident there, remit  
the money, and I will get you the license im-  
mediately, If you want anything else  
please write me. -

Yrs Sincerely,

John W. Kent  
J.O.

Mr. James R. Brewster  
Port Stanley. -  
Onto.

19. March 1875.

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 8<sup>th</sup> instant, received. Please send me by post - five dollars - and I will apply and get you a license for this year, of the fishing you have applied to me for, - in Lake Erie. -

Yrs Very Truly,

John W. Kent

T. O.

19. March 1875. -

Mr. W. H. Hankinson. -

Gowanda - P. O.

Ontario

My dear Barry. -

Yours received. I intended to be in Dunville on Easter Tuesday - when I hope to meet, and see all the fishermen at my friend Mr. David Price's. Mr. Henry Laws, of Dunville has been appointed fishing overseer - from the mouth of the Grand River to Caledonia, but I will still be occasionally round. - I will give you as good a chance as I can when I do come - Mr. Laws, I feel satisfied will take my advice in fishing matters. - I have written him today. - Please tell Henry Robt. Green and Second, &c. that I would like to see them when I come up. -

Yrs Very Truly  
John W. Kent

T. O.

19. March 1875.

Mr. Philander Barry,

Fisherman.

Dunville P. Office.

Sir,

14, March 1895.

I have the honor to draw your attention to Section No. 3, of the Fisheries Act, which states: "And all subjects of Her Majesty may take bait or fish in any of the Harbours, or Roads <sup>steads</sup>, Creeks or Rivers, subject always and in every case to the provision of this Act, as affecting the leasing or licensing of fisheries and fishing stations." ---

"And to sub section 9 of Section 13, of the Act, which states: No person shall fish for, catch, kill, buy, sell or possess the young of any of the fish named in this Act, or in any of the regulations under it?"

My object in doing this, is because complaints have been <sup>just</sup> made against persons for catching minnows: the young of some of the fish named in the Act, I believe, and selling them to fishermen in Buffalo, as bait, for their set hooks - and then our own Hook and night line fishermen, do the same thing at Fort Erie, on their own account. ---

The precedent established last season by you, that those fishermen shall pay annually one dollar for fishing hooks and night lines in Niagara River - will entitle them to take bait. While Section No. 3, of the Act, says indiscriminately all subject of Her Majesty may take bait, &c., &c.

I submit the matter for your consideration, your decision and instruction to me being the guide of proceedings against the person complained of, for taking bait from Niagara River, and for selling the same, without having a licence from the Dept. of Marine and Fisheries at Ottawa - "No fish nets and other apparatus" - With due respect.

Yours faithfully,  
A. C. C.

I Have &amp;

John Kerr J. O.

Sir,

20<sup>th</sup> March 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith. Bank  
cheque No: 165, for the sum of \$20. Twenty dollars.

This amount, please apply in Licenses to Messrs.  
H. F. Birely - William A. Howells - and Thomas Young,  
of B. Beach; viz<sup>t</sup> for fishing Stations No: 1. and 2. in  
B. Bay. - and No: 18. and 19. in Lake Ontario, on B. Bch.

These two licenses to be issued for this current year, just  
similar, to the licenses issued last year, for the same  
fishing grounds, to Charles Abraham, and H. F.  
Birely. - - With due respect,

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Hon: Ministers of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa,



100.

17, March 1875.

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque No: 159, for the sum of ten dollars, in full for Mr George Hutton, fishery at Fort Erie, for the year 1875. - -

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February last, I sent you Bank cheque No: 117, in which you will please find in the letter therewith entry No: 1. - Mr George Hutton, in the Niagara River, at Fort Erie, on acch for current year of \$15, making in all 25. -

If you will now be pleased to refer back, to my letter of the 18, of December 1874, you will find that I <sup>then</sup> sent you cheque No: 62, for \$25, to be applied on fishery then occupied in the Niagara River by Mr Chester A. Harris, for the year commencing the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1875. - -

By receipts No: 1, and 2, and a letter marked B, herewith, please learn that Mr George Hutton, fisherman - at Fort Erie - has purchased from Mr Harris - his net-boats, and fish shanty, for the sum of One Hundred dollars; Harris having left Fort Erie, and gone to reside in Buffalo, - so that with your approval, Mr Geo: Hutton will be now the licensee of the fishery at Fort Erie, - in the Niagara River, to the amount of \$50, for this current year. - - please send me an original license - as per copy herewith, - for the year 1875. - -

This will prove satisfactory to all parties concerned, I having just returned from Fort Erie where I had gone to find the matter amicably arranged, between the parties concerned. - - -

I recommend the License to issue to Mr George Hutton. -

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
H. A.

Hon Minister,  
H. A.

Sir,

18. March 1875.

I have the honor to send you a tracing of the plan ~~and~~ survey of the Dundas Marsh - made by Mr. D. L. Keefe, P. E. Eng. for Mr. John Semmens, of this City; - The original plan was given to me by Henry Semmens, after he returned from Ottawa, to get a tracing made of it, by order of Mr. W. J. Whitaker - Commissioner of Fisheries, for the department.

I hope the H. department, will never agree to the sale of the Government portion of Dundas Marsh, "Reserve of Fisheries" - now become distasteful to the City - You and people, whose farms, in Ancaster, Barton, and Glanboro West, town of Dundas and City of Hamilton <sup>are</sup> surrounding it, - - -

A petition is in circulation for signatures addressed to you, to stop the sale: - The public look upon the Fisheries in Ontario, as the vested rights of the people? under your protection by the Fish-act. - The tracing is well executed by the firm of Staunton, Biggar and Franks - Hamilton. - But my opinion is, that if Mr. Bausch, will examine it, carefully with a Protractor, he will find the original plan faulty. - - - The bearings are wrong, and out by many degrees.

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.

I have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
J. W.

Sir,

18. March 1875. -

I have the honor to send you herewith, a receipt for fifty dollars, from Mr. Wm. Beggar, for furnishing the Department, with a tracing of the plan and survey of B. Beach made by Brownjohn and Beggar, for the Corporation of the City of Hamilton. - As this amount may at first glance appear excessive - please refer to the said tracing, and you will find that I had work done, in connection with fisheries, in the survey, without the red line boundary, set forth on the plan of Beach, which was not asked for, by the City of Hamilton, nor given in the lease by the Provincial Government of Ontario, to the Corporation of Hamilton. - -

I deemed it advisable, as a future reference to have the B. Beach survey, in connection with the fisheries extended, and completed beyond the limits the City required, which you will please find it is, by examining the plan. - -

Independent of this, I now send you a tracing of Dundas Marsh, which I have had made and by strong argument, included also, in this fifty dollars receipt. -

With due respect,

I Have &amp;c

John W. Kent  
H. O.Hon. Ministers,  
H. H. H.

Telegraph #1. X

Suppl. charges  
# 5.45 X

My dear Sir.

I am in receipt of yours of the 15, wanting a renewal of your license to fish 200 hooks and line in the Niagara River - Year 1875. -

You will please send me two dollars - same as last year and I will apply for a license for you. - To fish a seine you will have to pay at least five dollars additional. - I am still fishing Oversee. - Please tell the other hook and line fishermen to apply to me at once for their licenses. - - -

Also Mr. Jacob Everitt, who fished a seine last year.

Mr. George House,  
Black Creek,  
Post Office,

W. J. Aubrey,  
"Schofield Street"  
Fishery Oversee  
22, March 1875,

\* Monday, 22 March 1875. - - -

At Toronto, and Collingwood - by order of Mr. W. J. Whitche, went out at 8, a.m., got in at 9.45, p.m. -  
Miles 140, Ry fare to Toronto, 1.30, to Collingwood 3.00. -  
Horse & butter, 1.50, dinner 60, tea 35, - bed 25. -

Tuesday, 23, March 1875. - -

\* At Collingwood, investigating matters concerning contraventions of the fisheries act, with fishermen, and fish dealers. - see my memorandum book, got names of fishermen - Boats, quantity of nets fished - fish caught, went out at 9, a.m., came in 7, p.m., miles 8. - - -  
Expenses 1.50, Breakfast 25 & dinner, 25, Tea for three 75, - bed 25. - H. & butter, 1.00, - miles as above. - -

The Mayor, Mr. Thoburn & his law partner, Mr. Lamon. Called on me at the Hotel, where I was stopping - about Bay-towing fishermen last fall.



My dear Sir,

I sent forward your application some time ago, but I presume the Heads of departments are so busy that nothing yet has been done. - I know it. - -

Will you be pleased to send me the money, and a very accurate description of the lots, by number, and location, as well as townships and riding in front of which your fishery will be situated, as well as the extent of the Lake frontage from Silver Creek, to the west side of Dalley's farm - also the distance from the Harbour, up Catfish Creek to the Cut,

and oblige,

Yrs respectfully,  
John W. Kerr

J. W.

22. March 1875.

Mr Sheriff,  
Colin Munro,  
St Thomas.

Wednesday, 24. March 1875.

At Collingwood and Botolphsgange - did not see Mr Van Black - saw Mr Van Black - measured his gill nets, found some of them  $4\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $4\frac{3}{8}$ , and 5 inch mesh. - Mr Van Black was at Staynes, went out at 7. A. M., came in at 12, miles about 32. - St. and Cutter,  $\frac{4}{2.50}$ , Billy & crew 1, breakfast, dinner, tea and bed  $\frac{4}{1.00}$ . - but on enquiry all rest of day - Had a Conversation with Mr Fair of Melville & Fair - who gave me important information, about gill nets shipped by him from Messrs Haron, Dickson & Co. Glasgow, Scotland...

Thursday, 25, March 1875.---

# At Collingwood, Thornberry, Macford and Cape Rich. - getting up returns, and Statistic's - from fishermen - went out at 7. a. m. came in at 8. p. m. - Miles 88, Team #4, \$4.4 Cutter #1.50 + Breakfast dinner, tea and bed #1.50, gave Billy Jerry 75. --- Paid Horse feed and Oles 75. --- got the returns, per Memorandum book. ---

# Friday, 26, March 1875.

At Collingwood, Barrie, Toronto and Hamilton. - had a pleasant trip from Barrie to Toronto, in conversation with Judge Burton - went out at 5. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. Miles 140, Railway fare 4.30, Breakfast, and dinner 85. -

Sir,

27, March 1875. -

I have the honor to send you Bank draft No: 172, for the sum of fifty<sup>4</sup> dollars. ---

This amount you will please apply as license

fees, as follows;

1. Colin Munro, fishing license in Lake Erie, and Catfish Creek - at Port Bruce, township of Malahide for entire year. --- # 40.00. -

2. James F. Wilcox, for three persons who fished in River Credit - part of the year 1874. for rough fish - as per returns of fish caught by them; Balance in full. - 15.00  
Total. - \$ 55.00 +

With due respect,

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.,  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
J. W.

681 "Confidential?" -

Sir,

24. March 1875. -

I have the honor to report for your information, that J. N. Corey - conveyed to me, a message this day, from Mr. Thomas Bartie, of Baptists Creek, Fishing Guardian, and Light House Keeper at the mouth of the Thames - Lake St. Clair - That the Seine hauling fishermen - between Bothwell, and the Light House in River Thames have been catching very small pickered in large quantities, in consequence of the very small size in their nets. - - -

I beg most respectfully to recommend that no Seine used a three inch mesh, extension measure be permitted nor allowed to be fished in any part of the River Thames, between the given points. - - - If not stopped immediately the pickered fishing in the Thames will, I am become a thing of the past in a few years. - - -

With due respect,

I Have &c

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

Hon: Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries  
Ottawa.

Friday. 26. March 1875. -  
at Collingwood

"Confidential."

27. March 1875. -

Sir, I have the honor to send you herewith two documents I received from Mr August Brady of Bothwell, (Nos. 1. and 2.)

It appears this person whom I am not personally acquainted with, is dissatisfied with the small salary of £15. -

As I have repeatedly taken upon myself to point out to you the great value of the Thame fishing, particularly between Cashmere and Chatham I strongly recommend that this person be paid forty dollars, if he does his duty which he appears determined to, it will be cheap. -

Mr Brady can collect from dip net fishermen - sufficient to pay his salary at this amount. -

Altho' not in my division I have answered his letter, pointing out what his duty will be, which I regret Mr McKee has failed to do. -

With due respect,

Yours sincerely

H. S. S.

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr  
J. W.



Sir,

1. April 1875. -

I have the honor to receive Mr Richard Johnson's letter - of Charlottesville - dated - Forestville, 4, March 1874. - from you - for advice re = 10. paid Peter Price, for a fishing license at St<sup>m</sup> William and Long point, referred to me for report. -

In reply to which I beg most respectfully to report and refer you to No: 8. in my letter to you of the 23. of April 1874. - and to No: 48. in my Annual Report of licenses fees, paid in by me during year 1874. -

I presume Mr Johnson, did not get a license last year, (he however fished) because of the confusion raised in County of Norfolk, about this time last year. - -

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
D. O.

Hon: Ministers of  
Marine & Fisheries, -  
A. Wawa,

F.

Tuesday. 30. March 1875. -

At Caledonia, Dunville, and Fort Erie, went out at 8. a. m. Came in at 4.30. Mile 112. By fare 1.60. 14 and Buggy 1.50. at Old fort, and amongst fishermen, - reported to me that Portuguese had been fishing on Canada side - and other catching bait in Canadian Waters. - got their names - informed fishermen they would have to pay license fee of \$1. for fishing now 13. - dinner, tea and bed \$1.00.

Supers Charges on fish Can 55.

Wednesday 31, March 1875. -

At and near Black Creek. - Jacob Everett paid me  
 10¢ fishing license fee, John Everett - One dollar. - thence  
 back, and up to Old Fort again. - miles 30. H & B 3.00.  
 Breakfast, dinner, tea and Bed \$1.25. went out at 8 a.m.  
 came in at 6 p.m. - - - Look down names of offenders. Fe.

Thursday -

April 1<sup>st</sup> 1875. - 2<sup>d</sup>

At Fort Erie. - thence to Dunville - Caledonia and Home,  
 went out at 6.30 a.m. home at 1.30 ~~p.m.~~ <sup>p.m.</sup> Ry fare. - 1.75  
 Caledonia to Hamilton 50¢. - H & B: 1.50, miles 120. - - Break-  
 fast 25¢. - - - H \$4.40

1. Geo. Button
2. John Davis
3. Mrs. Elliott
4. Jacob Everett
5. Thomas Thompson
6. Mich. Doyle
7. Ruth Leitch
8. W. J. Stewart
9. John Peter Black
10. James Sheppard

James Sheppard

Geo. Button

W. J. Stewart

John Peter Black

Postage 14

Sir,

5, April 1875,

I have the honor to submit for your consideration and approval my afets and diary, for the quarter ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March 1875. <sup>100</sup>  
The Diary in duplicate. <sup>130.85</sup>

Voucher No: 1.	- John W. Kerr, Telegraphs.	4.61,
" 2.	- John W. Kerr, Stationery.	5.20,
" 3.	- John W. Kerr, Express Charges.	8.10,
" 4.	- John W. Kerr, Postages, &c,	3.24,
" 5.	- John W. Kerr, Office Rent.	5.00,
" 6.	- John W. Kerr, Railway Rug.	3.50,
" 7.	- Charles John Kerr, Boatman.	10.00
		<u>\$ 170.50</u>

In performing my duties during the quarter ended 31<sup>st</sup> day of March last, I find I have elled 1819 miles. -

With due respect. -

Yours: sincerely,  
J. W. Kerr

I have &c,

John W. Kerr  
J. W.

\* Monday, 5. April 1875. -

At B. beach - received application from fishermen - to fish pike gill nets in B. bay. from 1<sup>st</sup> of April to 30. - went out at 8.30, A. M. came in at 5.30, P. M. miles about 24. - C. J. Kerr, with me. - 2.50

Sir,

1. April 1895.

I have the honor to receive Richard Johnson's letter and a letter answered which I received here on my return from Fort Erie this afternoon from Mr. W. J. P. Smart, a gentleman and a resident of Collingwood. The object this gentleman has in view in writing to me you will please glean by a careful perusal of this document, when in Collingwood last Wednesday, I learned all the particulars contained in this letter. Mr. Smart until I talked with him, was under the impression that he could fish for, catch and kill the speckled trout referred to, at any and in all seasons of the year, and Mr. J. H. Moberly, Johnson and Stevenson, Barriester &c, in Collingwood led him to believe he could, independent of the Fishery Act, and Orders in Council in this behalf. -- On Wednesday, the 24. of March, <sup>when making enquiries by you</sup> I just heard Mr. Smart had gone out to Asprey, which is 15 miles, from Collingwood, to catch some of his trout, for market, when I explained to a friend of his that I was desirous of seeing him on his return, so that I might converse with him on the subject. -- "He did go, but caught no fish" -- On Thursday evening last, at 8. p.m. on my return to Collingwood, from Cape Rich - Mr. Smart was in the Globe Hotel, waiting my arrival when we entered fully into conversation about the speckled trout herein referred to, I explained to him the law in the case, when he promised to write me the letter of application herewith, to be laid before you. --

Now without giving further particulars in detail, I strongly recommend that the application Mr. Smart makes may be immediately complied with, and that you will be pleased to permit him to fish for, catch, kill, and sell speckled trout for market in the month



referred to, during the months of March and April as applied for, and to enable Mr. Smart to protect his property with greater security against the thieves and others complained of, that you will be pleased to set his Pond apart, for the natural propagation of Speckled Trout, under 15 Section of the Act. -

The Pond contains 75 Acres of Water, with delicious springs of pure water, always gushing up from the bottom in several places, and about which the Trout spawn. - - It is situated on lots 29, and 30, in the E<sup>o</sup> Concession of Asprey, in the County of Grey. - -

I am fully satisfied I have at last come across a man, whose whole soul is wrapped up in Speckled Trout breeding, - - and who has <sup>succeeded to an unprecedented extent</sup> speckled trout as high as five pounds being as numerous in this Pond as smaller fish, and all this great success has been arrived at, without artificial feeding of any kind. -

Respectfully Submitted. -

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
T.O.

Hon. Minister,  
T. H. H.  
Ottawa.

Sir,

1. April 1875.

I have the honor to inform you, that on Tuesday afternoon, Wednesday, and this morning at Fort Erie, I observed Americans from Buffalo, in two row boats, on the Dominion side of the Niagara River, catch bait, with landing nets, for set hooks and night lines, fishing for pike, which is extensively carried on in Lake Erie, just outside of Buffalo, in American waters, and up the Lake between the Old Fort, and Windmill point, in Dominion waters. - They sell the bait for <sup>4</sup>10¢ a quart. -

To enable me to capture these Americans for Contention of our Fisheries Act, in the behalf I will require to employ two or three row boats with crews of Police and fishermen, from Fort Erie for the purpose, and I beg most respectfully to apply to you for your approval and permission to do this, as it will have to be carried into effect on the water. -

I know the names of the persons who are making a living at this business. -

If I am able to capture them their boats on being confiscated will pay all expenses. -

I Have &amp;c,

John W. Kent

F.O.

Hon. Minister,

O. H. O. -

Sir,

1. April 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith the names of fishermen, living near the Old Fort Erie - township of Bertie. - whose way of living during winter and up to 1<sup>st</sup> of June each year, is fishing lines and hooks, in Lake Erie - and catching pickerel, sturgeon, and occasionally a trout. - The bait used I believe is small herring fry, caught ostensibly for the purpose, in the Niagara River - on the lower Hutton, seine hauling ground. - When I spoke to them on Tuesday and Wednesday last, these men hesitated to pay the small rental of \$1, each annually, because Americans do the same thing frequently with lines set along side of theirs. However, I told them, I would insist on their paying this fee. -

It has been a very severe winter season at Fort Erie, this year, scarcely any fishing there and ultimately they consented to pay. -

These men of course also use large quantities of the herring bait, they catch in Niagara River, in this fishing. -

As the fishing has been so far worthless, this year, to the seine hauling fishermen at Fort Erie, who pay a large rent, - Will you be pleased to allow pickerel to be caught in Niagara River during close season provided they are sold in Buffalo market.

I am requested to ask you for this permission and to submit and recommend it, for your consideration. -

Respectfully submitted. -

I Have &

John W. Kerr  
D. A.

Hon. Minister

& & &

O. Nawa.



Sir,

6, April 1875,

I have the honor to send you Bank draft No: 183, for the sum of 40  $\frac{10}{100}$  dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows; for this current year, - -

Licenses to spear fish in B. Bay. - - -

No: 1, Chris: Lotman	- \$1.00.	No: 2, Wm: Rosberry	\$1.00.
" 3, Peter English	- \$1.00.	" 4, John Lyon	\$1.00.
" 5, John Doyle	- \$1.00.	" 6, John Holmes	50.
" 7, John McHenry	- \$1.00.	" 8, Sam: Chisholm	1.00.
" 9, John Blain	- \$1.00.	" 10, Geo: Bent	- \$1.00.
" 11, John W. Blain	- \$1.00.	" 12, Thos: Jones	\$1.00.
" 13, Ric: Nicholson	- 1.00.	" 14, John Bate	1.00.
" 15, Thed: Morrison	- 1.00.	" 16, Wm: Bate	\$1.00.
" 17, Thos: Oliver	- \$1.00.	" 18, Geo: Lottidge	1.00.
" 19, Elmer Alpers	- 1.00.	" 20, Sam: Lottidge	1.00.
" 21, Sam Blows	- \$-.85.	" 22, Ben: Chickens	1.00.
" 23, Wm: Clarke	- \$-.75	Carried over	- \$11.60
			Total - \$22.10

24, A. A. Davis, License to fish in the Grand River - Copy of license here -  
with - for current year - - - 10.00.

25, Joseph Tate - License to fish pike gill nets, in B. Bay. - - - do. - \$4.00.

26, Wm: Lottidge, License to fish in do. -  
do. - do. - 4.00  
Total - \$40.104

With due respect

Yours sincerely,  
F. H. H.

O. M. M.

I have the  
John W. Kern  
J. O.



Sir,

April 1875.

I have the honor to report for your information that I have permitted the pike gill net fishermen to commence fishing in that part of the bay set apart for this purpose. —

The fishermen after a long severe winter have no money at present until they make it to pay license fee, only in a few places can fishing be carried on the ice being still firmly fixed in the bay. —

With due respect,

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr  
D.O.

On'ly Minister

W. J. Hanna,

Monday, 12, April 1875.

\* At Toronto, Leslieville - Ashbridge Bay - and Toronto Island - Gen. Marsh - paid \$5, - David Ward, paid \$20, license fee - for current year, went out at 8 a.m., came in at 7.30 p.m. - Miles 50, Ry fare 1.30 - Boat hire \$1.00 + dinner 35 tea and bed 50 - Several dead fish - Killed by ice, &c.

Tuesday, 13, April 1875, - \$3.15.

\* At Toronto Island, Queens Wharf. - thence to the East end, saw Billy Montgomery - George Durnan - Wm Hardy, Hardy - paid me ten dollars - Billy Ward - and George Durnan - conversed with me about the latter selling out his nets, &c. and giving up fishing - which I approved of thence home to Hamilton - went out at 7 a.m., came in at 4 p.m., Miles 48, Boat 50, dinner 40, Ry fare &c 1.40. - \$2.30

See

7. April 1875.

I have the honor to continue my report on the Georgian Bay fisheries, and here commence at Thornbury. . . .

I may mention that I found only two resident fishermen in this place, and had the pleasure of conversing with them both. It is at this place, Beaver River, enters Georgian Bay. . . .

The fishermen here complained of saw mill owners for permitting the saw dust in the creeks which flow into the Bay, and injures their gill nets, and the fishery. . . .

Names of fishermen, at Thornbury. . . .

No. 1. Robert Boiter. - 1. Boat, 12 nets.	caught, 14,000 fish.
" 2. Robert Webber. 1. Boat. 14 nets. -	14,000. -"

Altho' only two licensed fishermen at present reside in Thornbury, still during fishing White fish season each fall, a good many of the boats of fishermen from Collingwood are there and remain during the fall, fishing each year, - that is Mr. Miller, bought <sup>fish</sup> in this place for D. W. Port, of Collingwood last fall. - The Northern Railway runs through this place, and makes it convenient for shipping fish, to good markets, in populous towns and cities. . . . Messrs Boiter and Webber consider the Duck Islands, &c &c, should be free to all Boat licensed fishermen. British subjects. . . .

Messrs D. W. and Andrew Port's - buy the Beaver, brown fish, Trout, and White fish - from this place, to Collingwood during close W. fish season, last November. -

The gill nets, at this place, were all the legal size mesh of 5" inches. . . .

I now come to Meaford, the terminus of the Northern Railway. . . .

The fishermen at Meaford, are as follows; No. 1. George Williamson - 1 Boat, 15 nets, - a <sup>caught</sup> few hands, has just got up the Rig. . . .

" 2. Donald McDonald. - 1. Boat - 15 nets. - 15,000 fish. -

McDonald complains against merchants, having the best fishing places licensed, instead of to fishermen, and hoped this would be put a final stop to it.

Mr. White - the Commissioner.

James Noble - Hollingwood - was complained of, for fishing  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " mesh - gill nets - while the Meaford fishermen all fished  $5\frac{1}{2}$ " mesh. -

A. Milne, and son - Store Keeper - of this place purchased 35,000 fish - from the fishermen here, last fall. They had some of them on hand when I was there on 25. of March, and selling for  $15\frac{4}{5}$  a piece - which in Hamilton, and Toronto, would bring  $30\frac{7}{8}$  a piece at the same date. -

No: 3. -	Rich <sup>d</sup> Chapman.	1. Boat.	15. Nets.	7,000 fish.
" 4. -	John McKee,	1. Boat.	15. Nets.	13,000. - - -
" 5. -	Young Chapman.	1. Boat.	15. Nets.	11,000. - - -
" 6. -	W. B. Mallery.	1. Boat.	15. Nets.	8,000. - - -
" 7. -	W. B. Pilgrim.	1. Boat.	15. Nets.	7,000. - - -
" 8. -	Thomas Porter.	1. Boat.	15. Nets.	7,000. - - -

The Cry amongst the fishermen at Meaford, was - Merchants occupied the best fisheries grounds, held by special license - to the prejudice of gill net Boat fishermen. - and who will not allow the said Boat and gill net fishermen to land thereon, unless they sell their fish to the merchants. - - I measured several of the gill nets here - and found them of the size described above. - -

Mr. Mill told me then - he had 5,000 fish still on hand. - - -

The fishermen at Cape Rich. - - -

I continued my journey, and enquiring from Meaford, to Cape Rich - where I found - Mr. Gilbert B. Macintosh Merchant - who received me very kindly - and had all the fishermen, around me in a few minutes.

The fishermen at Cape Rich, are all Scotchmen by birth; Their Names. &c. &c. - - -

No: 1.	Donald MacInnes.	1. Boat.	12. Nets.	2,000 fish.
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Besides 226. Packages - of salt fish. worth,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per. -



- No. 2. Laundry Kennedy - 1. Boat - 15 Nets - 7,000 fish. -  
 Besides 261 packages of Saltfish - worth  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per. -
- " 3. - Hugh McLean - 1. Boat, 12 Nets - 8,000 fish. -  
 Besides 264 packages of Saltfish worth  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per. -
- " 4. - Arch<sup>d</sup> Cummins - 1. Boat, 15 Nets, 8,000 fish. -  
 Beside 80 packages of Saltfish, worth  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per. -
- " 5. - Sidney Moran - 1. Boat, 15 Nets. - This is a  
 New Rig, just got ready, for this season. - - -
- " 6. - Joseph Cooper - 1. Boat, 15 Nets. - This is a  
 New Rig, - just got ready for this season. - - -
- " 8. - John McJames, 1. Boat - 15 Nets. - This is a  
 New Rig, - just got ready for this season. - - -
- " 8. - John McKay, 1. Boat, 10 Nets. - 2,000 fish  
 Beside 80 packages of Saltfish worth  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per.

The fishermen, at Cape Rich, complain of merchants who are not fishermen - having control of the Islands. He already referred to, in my report, preceding this of the 5<sup>th</sup>, instant - under special license. -

I also visited the mouth of the Motunau River - where John Van Black resides - a fisherman, I examined and found one gang of his gill nets a  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " mesh. - He was absent at the time, so that beyond inspecting gill nets. He, I did not find out anything. - 2. Boat - 40 Nets. - quantity of fish, I could not ascertain. -

John Fidler. - Fidler's Harbour - Penetanguishene, has 1. Boat, - 9. Nets, - Caught 2,000 fish. -

All the farmers in Penetanguishene are fishermen to a small extent. -

Thus you will please perceive the continued wealth, in Boats, and gill nets, - and fish caught by the fishermen, in these parts of the Georgian Bay. - I recently visited by your order. -

In this portion of my report, you will find, 21. Boats at \$150, each = \$3150. - 310 gill nets at 30, each = \$9300 dollars, and 125,000. White fish, and Salmon Trout at 20, each = 25,000.



and 911. Packages of Salt fish at  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per = 4099.50,  
 which added to the fish, and material of Bollingwood  
 &c, already furnished. ---

The totals will appear as follows;

55. Boats, at 150, each, =	8250.00.
788. Gill nets, at 30, each. =	23640.00.
491.500. White fish and S. Trout at 20, each, =	98300.00.
911. Packages of Salt fish at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per. =	4099.50
Total	<u>\$134289.50</u>

I have thus far, pointed out the dark and bright  
 side of the Georgian Bay, fisheries for your consider-  
 ation.)

I have nothing more to add, except that a  
 Salmon Trout close season is absolutely necessary,  
 in the Georgian Bay - and which I strongly re-  
 commend for adoption this season. ---

All of which, is respectfully submitted. -

I Have &c,

Johill  
 "D.O."

Hon. Minister

&

&

&

Ottawa,

Sir, 14 April 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank cheque No: 194, for fifty 5. dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply the same as follows; for this current year (1875) and send me licenses as soon as convenient. ....

No: 1 - Messrs David Ward, and P. Gray - license to fish in Lake Ontario, at Toronto Island, same as last year and on after. 20.00.

" 2. - William Hardy - license to fish in Ashbridge Bay - Toronto - same as last year. - - - 10.00.

" 3. - Lewis Marsh - license to fish pike gill nets, in Ashbridges Bay. - Copy of license herewith. 5.00.

" 4. - Mr William Bowman - license to fish in Lake Ontario, near the Rouge, same as last year. 5.00.

" 5. - Richard Gilbert - license to fish in the 20, Mile Pond. - same as last year. - - - 10.00.

" 6. - Richard Gilbert - Boat license to fish White fish gill nets, in Lake Ontario - same as last year. - 5.00

Total, \$ 55.00

With due respect,

I Have the

John W. Kerr

T.O.

Hon: Minister

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

Sir,

2. April 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank draft No: 178, for \$20.- dollars, which you will please apply on licenses for this current year as follows:

1. - Mr Jacob Everitt, of Willoughby, for license to fish in the Niagara River between Deceus mill and the west end of Jacob Everitt's farm. County of Welland per copy of license here= with. - - - 10.00.

2. Mr George House, license to fish hooks and lines in Niagara River, township of Bertie. - - - 2.00.

3. Mr Thomas James - license to fish hooks and lines in Niagara River - Township of Bertie. - - - 1.00.

4. Mr John Everitts, license to fish hooks and lines in Niagara. T. of Willoughby. - 1.00.

5. E. K. Miller, license to fish hooks and lines in Niagara River, T. of Bertie. - 1.00.

6. - Mr Wm H. Hankinson, Malahide, for a license to fish in Lake Erie, between Silver Creek, and the east side of applicant's farm - distance between given points 2 miles, being in Township of Malahide, East Riding of Elgin. - 5.00

With due Respect. \$20.00

Hon. Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries  
Ottawa,

I Have To  
John W. Kent,  
J. O.

Sent by Mail - the following,  
 1 John Everett, by Wellington 14  
 2 George House, Burtie, 14  
 3 E. K. Miller, Burtie, Black Lake  
 4 Thomas James, Burtie, St. Louis, 14 <sup>P. office</sup>  
 5 Rich Gilbert, Bridge Port, Jordan, 24  
 6 Joseph Bullock, Paris, - postage 44  
 7. Pat Gray, The Island - Case of James Burns  
 Merchant, Market St - Toronto, 34

Friday, 16, April 1875.

\* at Jordan, 15, and 16 mile Creeks - to see Rich Gilbert, and make enquiry - heard dip net were being fished in 16 mile Creek - frequently by persons from St. Catharines, went out at 8. a. m. came in at 7. p. m. July 70.  
 Ry fare 1.80, dinner 25, H&B 1.50, - 3.55

Monday 19, April 1875. -

\* at B. beach - to examine the Old Outlet. Jack Dake paid me \$2. - John Bate Com. explained that Fred & Harry stole the fish net from Bill Salbridge. Simon Peter Steyer, - met the Mayor and Aldermen on B. beach. City Engineer. John Brown & Esq. - Dinkley - went out at 9. a. m. came in at 6.30. p. m. - H&B 32, H&B 2.50.  
 dinner 50. - 3.00



Sir.

19. April 1875. -

I am in receipt of Mr James A. Miller's letter of the 15. of March, for the President of the Game Club, at St. Catharines, wanting to license the exclusive right for Port Dalhousie, 15. and 16. Miles Creek, &c, for this year, and with your order to report upon the same. -

Mr Miller, states having paid \$20, to Mr John W. Kerr, the fishing Inspector at Hamilton, but received no license therefor, and were constantly during the season annoyed by trespassers and poachers, more particularly by one Peter Bath, alias Dutch Pete - he however has been disposed of, for this season - having been convicted of larceny and sentenced 18 months, Central Prison. -

In reply, I have the honor to report, that I am opposed to a license the exclusive rights of the fisheries applied for. - And this language of Mr James A. Miller, Barrister, St. Catharines, I regret to hear, so far as it refers to Dutch Pete. - It reminds me of the old adage of "kicking a man when he is on the ground" - the department never does this, offenders are never persecuted, being always treated with long suffering, and kindness. - And no matter what Dutch Pates' misfortunes are - he on several occasions heretofore rendered good services to me, and the department, in upholding the fishing laws, rules, and regulations. - Please see my <sup>last</sup> letter to you of 19. May 1874, about him. - And altho' a defaulter himself, I can never forget his good acts. - Mr Miller - never hid any thing on Dutch Pete, it is however, the first time - he states anything against these unknown poachers. "Mr Miller is a great man to blow". -

Mr Miller, says - Would you kindly inform me, who was returned as Lessee for the year 1874. If Mr Miller, desires to know what members of the St. Catharines Game Club received the license.

I have simply to answer his question, "and he already knows it himself" - by stating that no license was issued to any member of the Club, last year, but nevertheless, the President, members of the Club, and friends enjoyed themselves, just the same, as if the license had been given to the President of the Game Club. - -

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of April 1874, I sent you \$20. - and applied for a license to be issued to the President of the Club Joseph Woodruff Esq<sup>r</sup> St Catharines.

In reply to this you wrote me, 9. April 1874. "The sum of \$20, paid by J. Woodruff Esq<sup>r</sup> on behalf of the St. Catharines Game Club, is taken on deposit subject to the Ministers order respecting the issue of the license." -

Please read my report of the 6. of April 1874, in reply to your proposition of the 26. of March, 1874, to set the Ponds apart, &c. &c. for the Sheriff, and Game Club - St. Catharines, under certain conditions, which was declined by them, - Mr. Miller, himself being the most active in doing so. - - -

Mr. Miller, further says - I have now the honor to renew my application for the year 1875, direct to the department, on behalf of the Club. We allow fishing for family use only not considering at present that it is advisable to allow series, &c. &c. - to be drawn. -

By this admission - Mr. Miller it appears requires all the power vested in the hands of the Game Club, St. Catharines, so as to permit every one to fish for family use indiscriminately, i.e. - no law, rules and regulations. -

Mr. Millers system is too broad, I don't approve of it, besides he allowed dip nets to be fished by farmers and any body else, with the understanding that farmers would in return allow the Members of the Club to shoot over these farms; - Such a report is notorious."

Mr Miller, continues - would you please advise us, whether any application was yet in, and if yes, from whom, and if any whether a license will be again given, to the Club, we being willing to continue to pay the usual fee - for the same limits. -

In reply to this, I have to state for your information, that some short time ago, Sheriff Woodruff, told me he would take out a license in behalf of the Club, for the same limits as last year. -

I am inclined to recommend

And Peter Hatty daughter applied for a license for the fishery at Pt Dalhousie. - I am inclined to recommend it, to be licensed to the latter, so that she may be able to support her mother, and dear sister in their misfortune, beside the people of Pt Dalhousie want a resident fisherman there for to supply the town, I can see no objection however to the Club, getting a license for 15 and 16 mile Creek, &c. provided Mr Joseph A. May, who owns lots Nos 9, and 10 - 1st Concession of South - and about 24 acres of the water of the pond does not want to license them. -

Mr Miller - goes on - Special pleading - We have also endeavoured having been strongly urged by those residing upon the banks of the 20 mile Creek, to have it in the same manner, - but up to this time have been unsuccessful. - We would also apply for the privilege of that stream for the year. - Can it be granted to us to protect it. - In reply to this from Mr Miller, I answer yes! he has endeavoured to induce me again and again to give the St. Leathers F. Club, a license of the 20 mile pond - and thereby ruin Rich<sup>d</sup> Gilbert - the present licensee and his wife, and four small children, and so accommodate the only two gambling farmers who live on the banks of the said pond, against whom complaints are lodged for



fishing for, catching and killing fish, within the licensed limits of the said Rich<sup>d</sup> Gilbert. -- as for the blue, pre-  
fecting fish, I never knew, nor heard of them doing so.

Mr Miller says, if possible, we should much like to get the 20; so as to In reply, I have to tell you this, is out of the question, so long as the respectable poor man who now license it, wants a renewal. --

The public would not be benefitted by the licensing of this 20 pound, to the Game Club. -- Mr Gilbert supplies the farmers, and people of in the surrounding village with abundance of fish, and they require a licensed fisherman in this locality for the purpose of doing this. -- To read all Mr Miller writes, a person who did not know him, would be led to believe that there is no protection for fish, but what comes just under the superintendence of the St Cathes Game Club. --

Mr Miller, still continues: We do not wish to interfere with what may be called deep sea or outside fishing - more than to see that the licensees thereof, do not break the laws, but would cheerfully consent to allow netting &c, there at lawful seasons. -- This is very considerate! --

Mr Miller, says! -- The drawing nets and seine in Harbours, and small streams where only rods and lines should be used seems objectionable, and we desire to abate it, Trusting that favourable consideration will be given to our application! --

I am always much obliged when persons assist me, but I never saw any bad result from allowing the farmers to catch a few suckers and mullets every spring, in the small creeks running through their own farms, and for their own use. --

This privilege was ceded to them by the



department many years ago. —

If Mr. Miller refers to the Harbour, at Port Dalhousie, I will be plain in saying that I do not view the matter, with as narrow a mind, as he does, Altho God knows, I take a warm interest in protecting our fish and fisheries. — The order in Council passed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant, and my vigilance will be sufficient for all matters in this respect. —

Why! — Mr. Jas. A. Miller, altho' he pledged himself to stock the 15, and 16 mile ponds and creeks with Salmon and other choice fish, if a license was given of them to the St. Catharines Game Club, has ~~not~~ yet been instrumental in placing a single fish of any kind therein. —

David J. Smith Esq. J. P. of Bridgeport, Jordan — the local Magistrate, coincides with my views respecting 20 mile pond. —

Except John Weaver, and Jacob High, no other person has any desire to meddle or disturb Red Gillnet. —

In Conclusion! — I warmly thank you for giving me an opportunity of repelling any slur, Mr. Miller, might intend to cast upon me by his direct appeal to you, as Mouth piece of the St. Catharines Game Club. —

With due respect.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
St. C.

The Minister.

My dear Sir,

You ask me if Seine will be licensed to you at the Bay - this year season - I answer yes! send on your money at once.

Yrs Truly

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Hamilton, Onto.

27. April 1875.

postage 3¢

Mr Thos. Mansfield,  
Frenchmans Bay. -  
Dunbarton P. Office

My dear Sir,

Your application for a license to fish has been received, send on your money, and I will apply for a license for you. - Otherwise you cannot fish. -

Yrs Truly

John W. Kerr

D. O.

27. April 1875.

postage  
3¢

Mr Geo. Marks,  
Frenchmans Bay. -

My dear Sir,

I found with Mrs Doyle, on this morning at Toronto, a box of pike, which she informed me she had just bought from your son James,

If you have disposed of your Seine &c to Billy Mead, and he has assumed your position as licensee of the fisheries on the Island, in your place, which he says he has; Your son can no longer legally for you, enjoy any more, fishing rights in the ponds or other waters in and about the Island. - So please instruct your son to govern himself accordingly. - If however, he persists, I must certainly do my duty at once, in the matter towards him. -

Yrs, Respectfully

John W. Kerr

D. O.

26. April 1875.

Mr Geo. A. W. Mann  
The Island.  
Toronto

postage

Ottawa, 22. April 1875.

Mr Kerr, - R. Johnson of Yonkersville, writes that in 1874, he paid Peter Price for his license, (how much, he does not say) that the license never came, and that he was consequently deprived from fishing during that season. How does this matter stand, -  
S. P. B. -

Mr. Bauser,

Mr R. Johnson tells you a deliberate falsehood, for I saw him fishing myself, west of St. Williams Harbour, Inuvik bay, - 9. of April 1874. - Refer to my letter to you of 1<sup>st</sup> April instant. -

The spring fishing, in which he participated was half over before Crockett and he paid. - I can procure sworn affidavits, if necessary to prove that both he and Crockett, fished also on Long Point. -

Yrs Respectfully  
John W. Kerr  
J. O.

27. April 1875.

Wednesday 22, April 1875.

On P. beach, got Aaron Fletcher to come up as far as the Outlet, and point the position of the same. - got information from Mr. Wulfe of Barton to the same effect, went out at 9, a. m. came in at 7, p. m. miles about 32, took down in memorandum all particulars. - for Mr. Whitaker, dinner for C. J. Kerr. and self 50¢ 14¢ B. 2.50  
2<sup>3</sup> 3.00

Mr. Kew,

Ottawa, 22, April 1875.

James Crockett states that in the spring of 1874, he paid Peter Price - then fishery guard - \$4. for his license, but that the license never came. -  
Neither can I find any record of it in our books. -

How does this stand. - -

S. H. B. -

Mr. Bauset,

I received \$4 from P. Price, for Crockett, on 15 May 1874, only a portion of \$10, his full license fee. - - I permitted him to fish, so that he might make his license fee. - I saw him fishing myself, and was told he done well. -  
He was out long pt fishing, west of the Cut, 15. of May last, for his son was then in Pt. Rowan selling fish. - - Please refer to my letter of 16. May 1874, for this \$4, on acct. My experience is, place no confidence in any statement Crockett makes, he is not reliable. - - The Dept. has treated Crockett, already better than he deserved, by allowing fines to remain in abeyance against him. -  
Crockett will lie, and has lied in this instance. - - -

Yrs Hc.

27, April 1875,

John W. Kerr  
H.O.



Friday, 23. April 1875. - Saturday -  
 # At Toronto, Cobourg, Prescott, and Ottawa,  
 went out at 1. p. m. came in at 8. a. m.  
 the next day. - Miles 328. Ry fare to Toronto,  
 # 4.30. - Tea and supper # 1.00. Ry fare to Pres-  
 cott, and Ottawa # 10. - 2.70 extra, # 15.80

# Saturday 24, April 1875. - Sunday 25,  
 all day in Ottawa, Cab fare # 1.00.  
 Breakfast, dinner and tea, # 1.80. Miles 8,  
 thence by Railway to Prescott, Cobourg, Toronto,  
 and passed over to the Island in a boat. -  
 Ry fare # 10, breakfast 50<sup>¢</sup>, dinner 50<sup>¢</sup>. Boat  
 hire 50<sup>¢</sup>. - Tea and bed 50<sup>¢</sup>. H. Ward paid  
 me 10<sup>¢</sup>, on acct of Geo. Durmans - license fee,  
 went out at 10.40, p. m. got in at 5, p. m.  
 Miles 328. - - - In consultation with Mr. Whitaker &  
 Mr. Bauset, for several hours. - # 4  
15.85

Monday, 26 April 1875,  
 # At Toronto Island, the City - Geo. Williams  
 paid me # 5, for Apted license, saw Billy  
 Lang, went out at 8. a. m. came in at  
 1. p. m. Miles 48. - Ry fare 1.30, Boat hire 50<sup>¢</sup>,  
 Breakfast and dinner 50<sup>¢</sup>, # 2.30

Sir,

I am in receipt of yours of the 12, inst, complaining of the Toronto Island fishermen - and asking me - "Whether they could not be compelled to return to the water any of the fish, which they do not use instead of allowing them to rot by the hundreds on the edge of the ponds, as they are in the habit of doing every spring?" -

If you, and the Executive Committee, are prepared to substantiate these charges for the past year, I am prepared to take your evidence on oath against the fishermen, on Toronto Island - last year, and thereby put a final stop to this wholesale slaughter you now assert, and complain of. ---

Please answer me at once, and send me the names of the witnesses, who can prove all these serious charges, give dates, name of the pond or edges of the ponds, where the fish were seen rotting by hundreds. -

After receiving which I will take immediate action. -

I am Sir,

Yrs Respectfully,

John W. Kerr

P. O. Box 372, Hamilton

P. O. 15, April 1875. -

postage 3¢

A. McGregor Esq

Secy & Treasurer

Tiffin Club -

Box 1037, P. O. -

Toronto. ==

Sir,

9. April 1875,

I have the honor to receive your fishing regulations establishing close season, for various fishes, adopted by the Governor General in Council on the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant, and for which I thank you, and in all, I fully concur except Fresh Water Herring, - My knowledge of this fish, made in B. Bay, and other parts of my division, made under personal observations is, that the time is placed one month too early. ---

To have close season for herring correct, it should be placed from 15. of Nov: to the 10<sup>th</sup> of December; I speak from personal knowledge acquired amongst the Herring, in their midst when they were spawning by millions. ---

I may here tell you, what the law will do, if not altered; it will ruin the Herring fishermen at Fort Erie, Queenston, Niagara, B. Beach, Toronto, and Shoal point and Pt. and Long point, Pt. Edward, St. Clair River, and fishing Islands. &c.

Herring are as rapid in spawning out, as Salmon are; I certainly thought Mr. Sam<sup>l</sup> Wilmut, ought to have been able to fix the time correctly. Cisco, and Gost fish should be closed in close season, with the Herring. ---

Altho' the Herring entered B. Bay, on the 15. of last November, and do so every year, it was the 24. of November, before they appeared on the spawning beds,

& In the St. Clair River, at Pt. Larned, and Pt. Edward, where the fish are only passing to their spawning grounds, when they are caught, and the fishing Islands - Lake Huron, &c.  
With due Respect,

My dear Peter,

Ric: Johnson, and James Crockett, have each of them written to Ottawa, and complained that they paid you last season, (you dollar Crockett states) (ten dollars, Ric: Johnson states) but got no license, and therefore they say, did not fish at all last year; and wanting to have a license this year, for the money they paid last year. . . .

Now it appears, I received this \$14, from you, and sent the same to Ottawa, and I think that Ric: Johnson's license was received by me, and sent to you for him. - But Crockett's license I did not receive. . . .

But at the same time you and I, saw Ric: Johnson, and Crockett fishing. - Johnson was hauling on his ground, the 9<sup>th</sup> of April 1874, when we were at Goose Roost, and on the 15, of May 1874, when you met me at Pt. Rowan, Crockett's boy was there belting fish, caught over west of the Cut. -

I want you to give me all the particulars of Ric: Johnson, fishing on hauling ground, west of St. William's Harbour, and afterwards on Long Point, and also Crockett's fishing up at the wharf, in the Inner bay - and afterwards west of the Cut. - You must know and be an eye witness of it all. - Let me have full particulars. I was at Ottawa, last Saturday. The weather was well. -

I wish you could procure for me a couple of good wild geese. - Please ask my old friend Bill Leary. . . .

I hope you are all well, remember me kindly to all, Alice, and all the members of family, and my friends. -

and believe me My dear Peter, with

Sincerely yours,

Wm. A. A. A.

Wm. A. A. A.

John W. A. A. A.



My dear Sir,

In reply to my report to the Department of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa. - in your behalf a copy of which I have already sent you, please find the Ministers reply herewith, which I hope will be deemed by you satisfactory. -

With kind regards. -

Yrs sincerely,

John W. Kerr

Page 34

D. O.

Hamilton, Ont.

29. April 1875. -

W. J. Smart Esq  
Collingwood.

My dear Sir,

Will you be so good, as to send me your license fee, and I will apply for, and get your license, and send it to you. -

The license will be \$5, I send you an order in Council, regulating close season, which you will please observe, and communicate to all concerned. -

Yrs truly,

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Page 34

29. April 1875.

Mr Thomas Purdy,

Niagara Falls

Friday 30. April 1875.

At Pt. Beach. and Wharves. warned the fishermen to set no gill nets - after they lifted their nets, then out in Pt. Bay. went out at 8. a.m. came in at 5. p.m. Miles 28. At Pt. 2.50, dinner 50¢. Total 3.00

Sir,

3. May 1845.

I have the honor to apply to you for about 100. Copies of the enclosed notice - printed for distribution, and for posting up.

It is just as well that the Mayor, Corporation and Citizens of Hamilton - and the public in general should know, what the fisheries department own, occupy, and control on B. beach, independent of the present residences of each fisherman, who reside there.

If this notice is not in accordance with your own views; please substitute a better, and let me have 100. printed Copies. -

I regret to tell you, that G. H. Carey - fisherman - has recently commenced to fence in a large portion of the open beach evidently with the intention of getting some remuneration from the City of Hamilton - for an imaginary ownership he is assuming thereto. -

I consider a letter, or something in the notice I now apply for, "on this head" - would tend much to quiet the grasping disposition of the fishermen altogether in this direction. - I recommend this matter particularly for your consideration. -

With much Respect.

W. G. Whitaker Esq.

I Have &c.

Comr. of Fisheries,  
H. W. A.

John W. Kent  
H. A.

To, the Commissioners  
of Fisheries. - Sir

April 19, 1875.

Will you be so kind as to  
furnish me with the name of any person holding a  
lease or license, for fishing with nets in the neigh-  
bourhood of the Stumber Bay, Stumber River, Mimico  
creek etc., Lake Ontario. -

As persons were fishing in the Stumber River,  
last year, with nets, and have been this year. -  
greatly to the injury of my business, as a  
boat builder. - Will you please answer this inquiry  
that I may prevent unlawful fishing. -

Yrs truly, - C. L. Hicks. -

Saturday. - 1. May 1875. -

At the Stumber. - Please see my report here -  
with, - went out 8. A. M. Came in at 7. P. M.  
Miles 82 - Ry<sup>d</sup> 2. dinner 25, 144 B. 1.00¢  
Boat 50<sup>¢</sup> H<sup>d</sup> 3.75.

1. May 1875.

I have the honor to receive Mr. D. L. Sticks letter, of the 19. of April last, with your instructions to report upon it.

In reply, I have the honor to inform you that there was no cause for Mr. D. L. Sticks, alarm, beyond the fact, that a man whose name I did not discover, had set seventy five yards of pike gill net in front of an outlet from a pond to the River Stumber - I went there today, and from my own acquired knowledge, I found the net there myself, and took it into my possession, finding three pike and a sucker gilled therein, which I gave Mr. Sticks for use of boat. - - Mr. Sticks is a boat builder, has 6 or 8, boats to rent out to anglers, who flock to the Stumber, from the City of Toronto, hence his selfish anxiety and concern about net fishing, and his only motive for writing you.

The parties who fished at Stumber bay &c. last year, were the licensed fishermen of Toronto Island - within whose licensed limits the same is situated. - - -

The Stumber is becoming a great summer resort, Altho' Mr. Sticks knew I am persuaded, who owned this pike gill net, he declined to tell me who it was. -

I however heard that a Boarder at the John Ducks - the energetic Hotel Keeper - Stumber - owned the net, I did not see Mr. Duck, or I should be in a position to tell you everything about it, I have &c.

The Hon: Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries  
Ottawa,

John W. Kerr  
J. O.



My dear Sir,

In reply to your letter, I have to state that on receipt of your remittance to me of \$40, for a license of the fisheries at Port Bruce, in Lake Erie - and Catfish Creek - Malahide - township of Malahide. - I submitted the same for the consideration of the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Minister of Marine and Fisheries - Ottawa, which has been declined by him. -

Nothing therefore now remains with me, but to return you the forty dollars, which you will please find post office order for, herewith. -

I am Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Hamilton, May 5, 1875.

Sheriff,  
Colin Munro,  
St Thomas,

Postage 50

Tuesday, 4 May 1875. -

# at London - \$<sup>10</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Stanley, Bruce and Burnell. - went out at 8 a.m. got in at 10 p.m. - Miles 130. Ry fare 3.60. dinner at London 60<sup>¢</sup>. Horse and Buggy to Port Bruce, feed and Driver 3.00<sup>¢</sup>. from Port Bruce to Port Burnell \$3.50<sup>¢</sup> tea and Bed 50<sup>¢</sup>. -

Saw Adams, Montez, and Gordon, at Port Bruce - they paid me ten dollars each, and applied for license. - Saw Henry Staugh - and J. R. Burnell at \$<sup>10</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Stanley - they agreed to pay \$8.00 each and applied for license. - Bill Elliott, applied - and agreed to pay ten dollars for last, and this year. - Heard from Elliott, that Wilson had a load of pickeral he bought from Crockett - fishing west of Cat Long point. Sailed at Ingersoll, early last week, I wrote and telegraphed Woodcock.

215

6. May 1875.

In reply to your letter of the 2<sup>d</sup> of April last, I have the honor now to withdraw my application of the 9. and 27. of March last, so far as my recommendation therein referred to, regards Mr Colin Munro, thus!

No: 1. - Colin Munro, fishery license, in Lake Erie, and Catfish beach, at Port Bruce, township of Malahide, for current year, \$40. dollars. - - -

And instead of this, please issue a license jointly to Messrs W. L. Adams, Fernando Kontze, and Jacob Berdau, licensed fishermen of Port Bruce for the same fishery limits, at the rate of thirty dollars, for this current year. - - -

I have sent back this day, to Mr Sheriff Colin Munro, the forty dollars he had paid me, which I sent you, simply telling him at the same time, that the Department declined to receive it. - - -

I have just returned from Port Bruce, and I found, when there on Tuesday last, that a monopoly was to be at once established - if Munro got his license - Adams, was to be sent a drift, and Berdau, and Kontze, who had consented to pay Sheriff Munro, and Mr Lindbergh Moore, his father-in-law \$30. for the use of an open beach, "it is questionable if they own it?" - was to be retained under the Sheriff's license - as sub let fishermen. - for another Consideration. - - The balance 10. of this forty - please apply on acct of Messrs Ward and Gray - Toronto Island. -

please refer to my letter of 14. of April 1875. - -

My warm thanks for the keen perception displayed by the Commissioners, and Mr Bauset, but for this, I admit, and believe an injury might be perpetuated. - With due respect. -

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister

H. H. H.

O'Hara,

I Have the

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Sir,

6. May 1875.-

I have the honor to apply to you, for a license to fish this current year, in Lake Erie - at Pt Stanley, in behalf of Messrs Henry Hough, and Jas & R. Burwell, as per enclosed Copy, at the rate of \$6.- which amount will be shortly forthcoming.

I have &amp;c.

John W. Kern  
J. O.Mr. Minister  
H. H. H.,  
Hawa.

Wednesday, 5. May 1875.-

at Burwell. - Vienna, Eden - and Fil-  
burg. - Simons Jarvis and Hamilton.  
Stage fare off 1. Breakfast, 25, Pay fare  
\$2.00, - went out at 5. a.m. came in at  
2. p.m. all right

My dear Adams,

Please inform me,  
who can prove the case against Mr  
Moore for having a string of pickered  
in his possession one day last week.  
Please write and send all par-  
ticulars.

Mr Wm. Adams,  
J. Sherman,  
Port Burwell.Yr Truly  
John W. Kern  
J. O.

6. May 1875.

Postage 3¢.

Sir,

I was credibly informed some time ago, that you attempted last year, through a Barrister at St. Thomas, to institute law proceedings against a brother fisherman W. J. Adams - Port Bruce, and that recently you have been threatening to stop Adams from fishing altogether this year. - Now let me tell you, that the department - Ottawa - do not encourage this kind of conduct amongst fishermen.

It was also reported to me that you permitted Mr. Lindley Moore to take away a string of pickled, from your haul last week, Now the law distinctly says: "No person shall during such prohibited times, fish for, catch, kill, buy or have in possession, any of the above mentioned <sup>kind of</sup> fish". To wit pickled - Between the 15 of April, and 15. of May? -

I shall have to fine you and Mr. Moore when I come up again. - In the mean time, I hope you will observe the law, in every particular, don't leave yourself, in any manner exposed. - My orders are so imperative, that nothing short of fines, can be the result for any contravention of the Act reported to me. -

The law I have quoted herein is very clear. -

I am, Sir, Respectfully,

Schullken

P. Gougeon

6. May 1875.

Mr. Fernando Kontze,  
Fisherman,  
Port Bruce.

Postage 3d



Sir,

10. May 1875.

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque  
No. 1. for fifty five dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
on licenses for this current year, as follows:

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| No. 1. - Mr John Morley - Leslieville - License the same<br>as last year. - - Lake Ontario.  | \$ 15.00. |
| " 2, Mr Isaac Michines - for license in Lake Erie,<br>at Bolton ditch, same as last year. -  | 5.00.     |
| " 3, John Gaffey <sup>#2</sup> , Mortimer Carey <sup>#2</sup> , and Alexander<br>Rollo <sup>#2</sup> , license to fish pike gill nets in B.<br>bay - ending 30. of April last. - - | 6.00.     |
| " 4, Morena Green, license to fish in Sulphur L <sup>ks</sup><br>and the Grand River - for current year. - copies<br>of licenses in a few days. - - "Haldimand and<br>Dunville".   | 10.00.    |
| " 5, Messrs George Brooker & boy. do. do. do.  | 5.00.     |
| " 6, Mark Green, do. do. do. do.   | 5.00.     |
| " 7, Philander Carey & boy - in Grand River, at<br>and near Dunville. -  | 5.00.     |
| " 8, Mr Charles Bial, License to fish Hooks in<br>Lake Erie, at Port Erie, in the township of<br>Bartie - 800. Hooks and lines. -  | 1.00.     |
| " 9, Mr A. P. Shaw & Son, do. do. do.  | 2.00.     |
| Total. \$ 54.00.   |           |

Mr Henry Lawe, the Overseer at Dunville, with  
whom I spent last Friday afternoon - will collect  
the balance of licenses still due at Dunville and  
Haldimand, when I will remit same to you  
with copies of license for each fisherman there,  
so as to give Mr Lawe a fair start. -

With due respect,

The Honble

Mr. Minister

H. H. H.

Wm. A.

I have

John W. Kerr  
J. W.

Friday, 7 May 1875.

\* At Caledonia, Dunville, Low Banks, Port Maitland and Staldimand, visiting fisheries. - received \$25. license fees at Dunville as per names in letter to Hon. Minister, sent away on 10, instant. introduced Mr Henry Lane to the fishermen of Grand River - as their future over-see. - - went out at 8. a. m. came in at 10. p. m. Miles, Ry fare \$2.00, 84¢ Ryrs \$2.00 + dinner, tea, and bed 75. -

\* Saturday, 8 May 1875. -

at Dunville - Fort Erie, Sus. Corbridge and Hamilton, fishing very poor at Fort Erie. - went out at 5. a. m. - came in at 5. p. m. Miles, Ry fare,

gerry boat 5¢. - Board, breakfast 4.50¢. -

Mr Hall, Fort Erie, handed me \$3. - One for Charles Vial, and two for A. P. Shaw & Son - of the Old Fort. - - - \$4.40

10 May 1875.

Colonel Patton - paid me his license fee on R. Beach - fisheries. - - -

My dear Sir.

On my arrival at S. Poudys, I was told that pickers caught at Danville, in the G. River, were frequently sold to Hotel keepers there. - Please give the fishermen a caution; they must stop catching pickers, and cease keeping them <sup>alive</sup> in boxes. - In fact, I would recommend you to examine all their boxes and ascertain if there is any truth in the report, so as to stop it at once. -

I sent away the \$25, to-day and wrote the Department that you and I had discussed the fishing matter of Grand River - last Friday afternoon - that on receiving the balance from you, say about \$26, I would send down copies of licenses, so that original licenses may be issued through you at once to each fisherman. -

By observing all this you will get a fair start; Charley Green, will have to pay up at once - otherwise he will have to be fined, and his net confiscated. - and no leniency will be shown to Joe Whipple, he must pay at once. - #

When you get the \$26, of which I gave you the memorandum - added to Henry Rofs' \$15 - and \$25, already collected and sent the Department, together with A. A. Dave's fee \$10, you will have nearly the amount of your <sup>annual</sup> salary. We must endeavour to make up \$100. in rent. -

Try what you can do at Cayuga. - If you want my assistance in the matter advise me. -

Very truly  
yours  
Danville,

Yrs sincerely  
John W. Kerr

O. O.  
10. May 1875

P.S. The general of department is - every man should pay first, before commencing to fish, make them too the mark at once. -

Postage 34

J.S.  
J. W. Kerr

Sir,

13. May 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank Cheque No: 16. - for the sum of Twenty dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply the same for this current year, as follows: -

No: 1. M<sup>rs</sup> J. B. Villiers, and M<sup>rs</sup> Patton, and M<sup>rs</sup> William McCullough - for license of fishery in Lake Ontario, on B. beach - same as last year on account. -

\$ 5.00.

" 2. - M<sup>rs</sup> Richard Johnson, of Charlottetown, County of Norfolk - License fee for to fish in Lake Erie - same as year 1873 - please refer to my letter of 26. April 1873 - and 23. April 1874, please send license to M<sup>rs</sup> John A. Backhouse, to deliver. - and which I recommend may be granted for. -

\$ 5.00.

" 3. M<sup>rs</sup> James Longhurst, and James Robertson - license to fish in the Niagara River, as per copy of license herewith. -

\$ 10.00.

With due respect. -

Total. \$ 20.00

Hon. Minister,

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr

J. W.



Tuesday, 11. May 1875.

At St. Catharines, gave Jim Miller the Whiteley letter so that he might as he stated answer it - thence to Niagara - and up to the zone - saw Big Jim - Frob and John Bolton - John Haw, the Balls - Brothers - Thomas Elliott - paid me \$10. for Mels Longhurst and Robertson - went out at 8. a.m. came in at 7. p.m. - Mils about 56. - Ry. 1.00. Stage fare 50<sup>¢</sup> - H. & B. 1.00. dinner tea and bed 75. -

Wednesday - 12. May 1875. -

At Niagara, Queenston - and Susan Dredge home - saw Mels Gabriel, Madenworth, Derror and Harry Sheppard - fishing very bad so far this season. - Went out at 10. a.m. came in at 1.20. a.m. 13 inst. - Mils 61. Ry fare 1.75 - H. & B. - 2.00. -

My dear Sir,

Yours received - you can go and fish in Traveller Bay in Lake Erie, just west of Mr. Colborne, but the first fish you catch, you will have to pay five dollars. Now remember, I give you and the Love, this chance in all sincerity.

Wm. McKel

Fisherman,

Pt. Dover.

Ry - 40.  
John W. Kern  
H.O.

14. May 1875.

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 9<sup>th</sup> instant, just received, unless Joseph Whipple - pays at once, he cannot fish - and if he came on and fished without first consulting you - seize his net, and boat and fish - fine him - and confiscate his whole rig.

I wrote you on Tuesday last, and put letter in St. Catharines Post office, as I passed there for Niagara.

Close season for hals, from 15. of May to 15 of June. - please give this your attention.

Yrs Paternally

John W. Kern

D. O.

14. May 1875.

Henry Louis Lepp

D. O.

Dunville N. O.

My dear Sir,

Yours received, please send me at once five dollars, and I will apply for a license for you - and recommended the Department to give back the Pike gill net.

Yrs truly

John W. Kern D. O.

14. May 1875.

Mr John Duck,  
The Hunter  
Mimico P. Office,

Sir,

15. May 1875.

I have the honor to apply to you for season licenses, for this current year, as follows: -

1. Mr Thomas Elliott, to fish in the Niagara River, and Lake Ontario, at Niagara the same as last year. - -
2. Mr John Bolton, to fish in Lake Ontario, at the two mile creek, the same as last year. - - -
3. Mr James Cantwell, to fish in Lake Ontario, at the four mile creek, the same as last year. - -
4. Messrs James Longhurst, and James Robertson, license to fish in the Niagara River, as per copy herewith, - money sent you on 13. instant. - -
5. Mr Henry Sheppard, license to fish at Queenston, and part of Niagara River - as per copy of license herewith, for this current year. - -

The fishermen in general this season, have made no money, by fishing, I have consequently applied for license herewith - license fees will come forth after a little time.

With much respect,

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
D.O.

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

Sir,

14, May 1875,

I have the honor to report for your information that so many enquiries have been recently made of me, as to whether people can angle for bafs. - From 15, of May, to 15, of June, that I am compelled to refer the matter to you, for your decision. - -

Then another enquiry is, does the Order in Council, adopted by the Governor <sup>of</sup> in Council, on the 3. of April last, include all kinds and species of bafs. - - For instance, we have -

- No. 1, Black bafs.
- " 2, Green bafs.
- " 3, White bafs.
- " 4, Speckled bafs.
- " 5, Orange bafs.
- " 6, Rock bafs.

Besides a very common kind of bafs, I have not been able to name. - They are all good food. - With due respect,

I Have &c.

Hon. Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries  
Ottawa,

John W. Kerr  
D.O.

Postages <sup>4</sup> 24



Sir,

17. May 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank cheque No: 21., for the sum of \$26. dollars. Will you be pleased to apply the same as License fees, for this current season, as follows;

1. Colonel, St. B. Billies, for to fish in Lake Ontario, at B. Bch, same as last year, a separate license required for Col: Billies. --- X 5.00

2. Messrs David Gitch, Duncan McGillivray, and Sphaerius Williams - License to fish pike gill net in B. bay, same as last year. Copies of license herewith. --- X 6.00

3. Mr Richard Saalfe, Boat License to fish Salmon Trout and Wh: fish gill net in Lake Ontario, Copy herewith. --- X 5.00.

4. Mr Wm. Montgomery, Boat License to fish pike gill net, in Ashbridge bay, Lake Ontario, near Toronto, the same as last year. --- 10.00

Total \$ 26.00

With Much Respect,

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr -  
D.O.Hon: Minister  
& & &  
Ottawa.

Sir,

17. May 1875.

As I intimated to you in my note last Saturday, I have the honor to report that I spent the entire of last night on B. bay, grappling for gill net set there in contravention of the Fisheries Act. -

I may here state for your information, that Pike gill net fishing terminated on 1<sup>st</sup> of May, when all gill net fishing ceased altogether therein. -

However, it appears the fishermen were determined, and did set out a large quantity of their gill nets in B. bay, for the express and special purpose of catching wild ducks, in this they were very successful. For in about 1500 yards of gill net, found in B. bay last night 237, Canada, Squaw, and Red ducks were found together with three large herring. -

The names of the fishermen, who have made themselves active in this business, are named as follows: p. 1. Fred; p. 2. Corey. -

" 2, Dan; p. 3. Gwynne.

" 3, Ben; p. 4. Goulds. -

" 4, Rich<sup>d</sup>; p. 5. Gaaffe,

" 5, John Gaaffe,

" 6, - Duncan p. 7. Gillivray. -

" 7, - Alex; p. 8. Rolla. -

" 8, - Sam; p. 9. Corey. -

" 9, Thomas Dore, and

10, Joseph Gates. -

I have proof positive against all the persons herein named, for fishing gill net without a license from the Department. But the question still is, what can I do to them as netting these ducks, with much respect,

W. J. Whitehead Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Commissioner of Fisheries,  
Ottawa. -

I have  
John  
D. O.

P.S. I may here add - that I incidentally heard on last Friday, that Daniel McFoyne, had been arrested for stealing 23. pair of ducks from J. N. Leary. -

Steering the trial was to come off at 4. p.m. same day, I attended there, found for want of proof positive ag<sup>t</sup> McFuzne, Corey had to pay twelve dollars costs, the case being dis-  
missed. -- After this decision being given ag<sup>t</sup> Corey, he volunteered to come out with me last night, hence through his instrumentality I have been so successful in this case. --

Y. N. Corey, in fact, found all the nets with the ducks, and three herrings gilled in them. - The ducks, I allowed him to retain, for himself. The three herrings were given to the <sup>III</sup> page of Barton. -

W. J. Whiteley Esq  
C. of J.  
Albany.

With due respect,  
Yr obt servant,  
John W. Kerr,

Saturday, 15, May, 1875. —  
 On B: Beh, arranged with Mr. H. Corey to go  
 out on Sunday night on B: bay - to grapple gill  
 nets, set there in contravention of the Fisheries  
 Act. — went out at 4, p.m., came in at 8,  
 p.m., Miles 26. 144 B: 3, —

Dick Baaffe, paid me \$5. Boat License.  
 Messrs <sup>3</sup> Duncan McGillivray, David Hitch, and  
 Eph<sup>m</sup> Williams paid me \$2, each for  
 licenses to fish pike gill net in B. Bay,  
 up to, and ending 30. of April last. -  
 sent same to Dep<sup>y</sup> <sup>3</sup> Olhaver, on the  
 17. inst. - Col. H. B. Nillies paid me \$5.  
 License fee. for fishing station. B. Bay.

My dear Sir,

Both your letters received. please let everything remain in Abeyance until Monday next, when you may expect me by first Train at Annville. -

Yrs Sincerely,

John W. Kent

ptg 34

D. O.

20. May 1875.

Henry Lane Esq

D. O.

Annville.

My dear Sir,

Your letter complaining of persons for illegal fishing have been received. - If they do not stop immediately, send me word, and I will come up. - tell them you have complained to me about them; Be careful and do not catch hals. -

Berdan, Adams and yourself should be well able to keep the people who heretofore spoiled your market, in their <sup>own</sup> place. - It was for this purpose as a means of protection, you have got a joint license this year. -

Yrs Sincerely

John W. Kent

D. O.

20. May 1875.

Samuel A. Kent

Fisherman,

Port Bruce.



Sir,

20. May 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith,  
Bank draft No. 26, for the sum of nineteen dollars.

Will you be pleased to apply the same  
as License fees, for this current year, as follows;  
No. 1. - Thomas L. Purday, License to fish in Otter  
Creek below the dam at Verma township of  
Sayham. - same as last year, send me  
Original. - - -

# 4  
4.00.

\* 2. Messrs John Reid, and Robert Secord, li-  
cense to fish One seine each in Sulphur  
Creek, at Staldemund, near Dunville, in  
the County of Monak. - \$ each. - Copy  
of license herewith, send Original to Mr.  
Henry Lawe.

10.00.

\* 3. Messrs Gordon & Belsey, for license to  
fish 2 dip nets in Sulphur Creek at Stal-  
demund - in County of Monak, 1. each - 2.00.

\* 4. John Logan, license to fish two dip  
nets, in the L. River at Dunville, below  
the dam. - 1 each. - send to Mr. Henry Lawe. - 2.00.

\* 5. Robert Mathews, license to fish 1 dip  
net, in do. do. do. 1.00.

Total. \$19.00

On the 10. of May instant, I sent you \$25,  
to apply as License fees at Dunville. - I now  
send you copies of licenses to absorb  
this amount. - -

Note. - Please send Originals to Mr. Henry  
Lawe, Fishery Officer - to Count & sign and  
deliver. - With due respect,

The Honble

I Have &amp;c.

The Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries  
Ottawa.

John W. Ross  
T. A.

"Immediate"

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to send me the sum of eight dollars, I will despatch to you by next mail; your license to fish this season in Lake Erie, and Kettle Creek at Pt Stanley.

Yrs truly,

John W. Kerr

Melp

Henry Mough,

34.

P.O.,

20. May 1875.

J. R. Burwell,

Fisherman

Pt Stanley.

Please observe close season - for half -

Yrs J. W. Kerr

P.O.

My dear Bill -

"Immediate"

I have just got a rap over the knuckles, for permitting you to fish without first paying license fee, for last, and this season; - please let me have the ten dollars, at once, and oblige

Yrs Truly,

John W. Kerr,

Pt Burwell.

Yrs truly,

P.O., -

Postage 34.

20. May 1875.

20. May 1875.

My dear Sir,

Have you forgotten that you  
promised to send me a bag of choice pota-  
toes for planting. How is fishing getting on,  
I wrote Kortege and Adams for you. -

Ys truly,

John W. Kent

J. A. Jones

Hamilton, Ont.

Mr. Mealy

Fish Pond,

Port Bruce.

My dear Sir,

Yours containing <sup>4</sup>15, received, and remitted  
same to Ottawa this day. And all licenses paid  
for, will I have no doubt be sent you to counter-  
sign and deliver. - With regard to Bass different  
kinds. I made the same enquiry of the Commissioner  
before I got your letter, I expect an answer  
soon. As Monday will be Queen's Birth day,  
I defer coming to Dunville, until day after.  
Charles Green, must be very childish.  
Our friend at Baiegega should pay <sup>4</sup>30 for  
a license of the Territory he applies for.  
If he is prepared to pay this amount, send  
on the money. I will recommend it - A  
fisherman who fishes a Seine at Dunville or  
Haldimand, can do so, but cannot allow a  
man to fish a dip net, because he has no  
powers beyond what his own license specifies  
under the Fisheries Act, Rules, regulations, orders  
in Council &c. Believe me

Very sincerely Ys

John W. Kent

J. A. Jones

20. May 1875.

Henry Jones Esq.

J. A.

Dunville.



Sunday, 16, May 1875. & 17, May 1875.  
 # On Burlington bay - all night. - Charles John Kerr, and  
 Christopher Case with me. - Fred Corey and Fred<sup>K</sup>  
 Kerr, in another boat. - They took up about 2,000  
 yards of gill net, and 240 ducks - three herring and  
 one rock hake. - I grappled to Browns wharf, and  
 back to Leveys' again - thence to the Clay wharf,  
 Corey took the nets, fish and ducks to Mr. Wallace  
 put the nets in my waggon - gave Sterling to  
 Mr. Jagg - took the ducks himself. - The nets belong  
 to Alex. Rollo. John Saaffe, George Stall, and  
 Duncan McGillivray - fishermen on B. Bay.  
 please read my report of 17, May - went  
 out at 6. p. m. came in at 5. a. m. while  
 about 48. - \$4 B. and boats -  
 J. H. Corey and J. Kerr \$5, and Chris<sup>2</sup>  
 Case, & Charles John Kerr \$5, - \$4 B. 3.

# Tuesday, 18, May 1875.  
 Jack Saaffe, and Alex. Rollo, came to my  
 place - to claim gill nets, and own up. - Jack,  
 told me Sam. McGoyne, and Ben. Goulds had  
 1,500 yards of gill net in Bay, in front of Browns  
 wharf, close in. - Charles John Kerr, and myself  
 went for it in my own boat. - Saw a person  
 supposed to be Dick Saaffe heading for a  
 net, and soon after a sail boat. Ben. Goulds  
 and Sam. Corey - was in the latter, they grapp-  
 pled up a gill net, when we rowed for  
 them, and I took possession of said gill  
 net, and fished it up. - found in said net  
 15 ducks, and two herring. - neither Ben. Goulds  
 nor Sam. Corey - had a license to fish in B.  
 bay. went out at 9. a. m. came in at 6.  
 p. m. - while 30. - sent down for the nets  
 gave 10 ducks to Joe Tate, and 5 to Philip Smith.



Mr Adams. -

I send you herewith, the joint license for yourself, Berdan and Montez of the seine hauling grounds for the use of three seines only, at Pt. Bruce in Lake Erie, this season. - - You have each of you paid the like sum of \$10:- so each of you should and shall enjoy equal rights and privileges to fish there. - - I am of course aware that there have been your seine hauling grounds at Pt. Bruce until this year, but as I understood there were only three seines to be fished there this season, and as Berdan and Montez, desire to be placed in one license for two seines this season, the Department at Ottawa, considered it more prudent to put all your names in one Annual license, so that as Union is strength, you may be the better able to protect yourselves against trespassers. - - Spearfishing in the Creek, setting lines and sturgeon nets on your licensed grounds without your united permission, thereby spoiling your market, and damaging your fisheries, which in your joint capacity under license you must now unitedly put down. - - No matter what your past differences may have been, henceforth pull together, for your own mutual benefit: - - Determined that no outside man shall invade your fishing rights, within any portion of the limits described in your license herewith. - - Lest there may be any unkind feeling in the matter, I send this license to you, as the Oldest resident fisherman at Pt. Bruce, for to keep. You will please notify Berdan and Montez, when you get this license, and read it over to them, and this letter carefully; at the same time give each of them my kind respects; my advice, this has =

moniously together, acting and aiding each other, as the Department always advises you, and assist me to uphold the fishing laws, so much in the end to your own personal advantage.

Yrs &c.

Lohultker

D. O.

15. May 1875

Mr. Wm. Adams,  
Hilfmann.  
Post Office.

64

My dear Sir.

Will you be pleased to send me Mr. White's letter, which I gave you to peruse as the answer to your application made direct to him for a License of certain fisheries, and oblige,

Yrs respectfully, -  
Lohultker

D. O.

15. May 1875.

Jas. A. Miller Esq  
Barrister at Law,  
St. Catharines.

34

Sir,

13. May 1875.

I have the honor to report for your information that the receipts of the fishermen, for fish at Niagara, Queenston, and Fort Erie, in Niagara River has been very slim this season. . . .

The additional close season of 15 days added on to Pickeral, has completely prostrated Mr. George Hutton, in his fishing at Fort Erie. . .

I am convinced now that if the order in Council, adopting close season for fishes, had been issued before Hutton took out his license for this season - the fishing ground there - so far as he is concerned, would have to remain unlicensed. - Besides the weather and elements have injuriously prevailed against him. - By this Queenston and Niagara, are reduced to the same condition. . . .

It was only on Tuesday last, for the first time, that some of the fishermen by seine hauling at Niagara, caught a few white fish. . . .

The storm that set in the same night, stopped fishing there for some days to come. . .

On the whole everything seems to prevail against those people this season. . . .

I may add - It requires a light hand, a tender heart and mind, with great forethought and knowledge, to establish close season for pickeral and herring in our Niagara River - Frontier waters, where American fishermen enjoy such favorable privileges over our fishermen.

I Have &amp;c,

W. J. Whitcher Esq  
Commissioner &c.John W. West  
D. 2

B. H. H. H.

My dear Sir,

Please let me have your license money at once. - The close season for hals, from 15. of May, to the 15. of June, includes all kind of hals - so please pay strict attention to the law.

Yrs Truly

Mr Henry Bots  
Fisherman  
Pr Maitland,

John W Kerr. D.O.

24 May 1875.

Postage 3¢.

Letter to Thomas Elliott, Niagara. - 3¢

License to John Morley, Leslieville. - 1¢.

do " Isaac Michener - Low Banks. 1¢.

Sir,

28 May 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank cheque No. 36, for the sum of five dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this sum as License for Mr Rosana Rath, and James Williams, in Lake Ontario, at Pt Dalhousie. -

The License for this current year. Will be the same description as that issued by you last year, to Peter Rath, for seine hauling ground. -

With due respect,

I Have &c.

John W Kerr  
D.O.



Sir,

26. May 1875. --

I have the honor to report for your information that the General Quarter Session will be held here on Tuesday the 8. day of June next. --

Philo H. Bates, convicted for having wh. fish unlawfully in his possession at Hamilton, on the 28. day of November last, in contravention of the Fishing Act; and fined ten dollars with costs. --

Bates having appealed against this decision, it will be necessary for me to employ a Barrister to attend to the case in behalf of the Department. -- May I respectfully ask your permission to do this at Once. --

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
J. S.

Yr. Minister,  
J. S.

My dear Sir,

Your received, will be with you on Tuesday. -- I cannot come on Monday. Saw Colonel Billies here, Brigade Major. We talked matters over, I am afraid nothing can be done, and glad to learn you are getting well, I have got all your license as usual My kind regards to all. --

Please tell Bolton, Gobb, Moor, and Jim, to continue fishing on, and do you, do the same.

Mr. John Elliott,  
Niagara.

Yrs Sincerely  
John W. Kerr  
Hamilton

29. May 1875.

My dear Sir,

Yours received, and for which I thank you. I can come up myself on Thursday next, but not sooner as all my time till then, will be taken up; Do they fish on Sunday? - Keep a private watch on them, and let me know where the particular places are, where they catch the hals. - And what time in the day, is the most likely to make them. - -

I am sorry to hear that you have incurred losses through revenge for hauling up persons for catching speckled trout illegally. - In future when any thing illegal happens - please let me know at once, I have no scruples whatever in doing my duty. - With kind regards, Believe me very truly Yours,

Robert Kerr

J. O.,

Hamilton, Onto.

29. May 1875.

Joseph Bullack Esq<sup>r</sup>

Commissioner Merchant,

H. H. H.

Paris, - Onto

Tuesday 25 May 1875. -

\* At St Catharines, and Pt Dalhousie, saw Jim Miller, got my letter from - in answer to his of 15, of March last, thence by Horse and buggy to see Mr. Rath, - got from her \$5. to apply as a license fee on fishing ground at Pt Dalhousie, got from her particulars to reply to Mr. Miller (2) letters, and a petition - he sent to Ottawa, dated 11. of May, went out at 8. A. M. came in at 6. P. M. Miles 80. Ry fare 2.00, Horse & buggy 3.00 dinner 40¢, please read my report, dated the 26. of May 1875, on the Case. - -

My dear Sir,

Yours received. I have not yet got your license from Ottawa, I sent for it, today again. Don't mind Mr. Jarvis, he cannot interfere with your fishing ground, if he does let me know at once. -

Yr<sup>s</sup> truly,

John W. Kerr.

J. Oversee, Hamilton.

31. May 1875.

Mr John Everett, (   
 Fort Erie. -

Wednesday 26, May 1875. -

At Winona, to see Paddy Hand - went out at 6.30. A. M. came in at 2. P. M. - miles 40. H. & W. 3.00. - -

Friday 28, May 1875.

At B. Bay, to see J. M. Carey, and warn the seine hauling fishermen - when the fished on 31. of May, to stop as it terminated for the year in B. Bay. - Mr. McElroyne paid me \$4. on acct. of seining in Bay # 5, pike gill net fishing # 2. on acct. of Lake fishing # 1. -

Have gill net licenses ending 30<sup>th</sup> of Apr<sup>l</sup> to Sp. Williams, David Gitch, and Duncan McElivray, - also boat license to fish Trout and Wh. fish gill nets in Lake Ontario by Ric<sup>d</sup> Saaffe, went out at 4. P. M. came in at 11.30 P. M. - miles 26. H. & W. 3.00. J. Kerr with me. - - -

Sir,

31. May 1875.

I have the honor to apply again to you, for Seine  
hauling license in the Niagara River, between the  
International Bridge, and Deceus Mills, for Mr. John  
Smith, of Victoria Village, in the township of  
Bertie...

I sent you a copy of license with Bank cheque  
No. 163. - for twenty five dollars to apply thereon, for  
this current year, on the 19. day of March last, but  
up to this present time, I have not received it  
from him...

Please let me have it at once, and  
Oblige, with all respect,

I Have, &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
D. S.

W. J. Whitaker Esq.  
C. of Fisheries,  
Ottawa.



My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter, I can do nothing for you, when I was just appointed Oversee, at Port Bruce, I think you owned by license a seine hauling ground there. --

You hold out, others done the same; Don't you think it is unfair for <sup>to</sup> give you, or any body else a license to become an intruder on the licensed fishermen of Port Bruce, who already occupy all the fishing grounds there. --

The law distinctly says you cannot fish on their ground nor within two miles of it, so if I was to give or get a license for you, you would have to go out four miles. -- Our licensed fishermen at Port Bruce must protect themselves, and I will assist them. -- Just consider it your own case. --

Yrs Truly,

John W. Kerr

J. W. --

31. May 1875.

Mr. Sylvanus Young,  
Port Bruce.

My friends.

Several persons have applied to me for permission to fish hooks on your licensed fishing grounds, but you don't want them there, and neither do I, so that if they set any fishing apparatus on your licensed grounds, go and take them up and keep them for me. Your license empowers you, to do this. "Stop Spearing."

Mr Sylvanus Young, has made an application like some of the others to me, but I have written my answer to him herewith;

You can all read it, and hand it then to him, as my answer, to him and all the other applicants, except Jonathan Nichols, who wants to fish hook in some out of the way place, where it will not interfere with you — please tell him he can do so. —

Remember that close season for hals, include all kinds, don't break the law, and believe me,

Yrs truly,

John W. Kerr

D. O.

31. May 1875. —

My friends

Adams, Koutage  
and Berdan. —

Fishermen,  
Pt Bruce. —

No excessive fishing will be allowed at Pt Bruce any more. — Keep Holy Sabbath day. —

John W. Kerr

D. O.

## Notice . . .

The gill net fishermen at Niagara resident there including others there at present from distant parts, situated on Lake Ontario are required to take out their season license forthwith, for this current year, as they will not be permitted to fish for, nor catch, nor have in their possession, nor sell fish of any kind illegally caught. . . .

Gill nets under five inch mesh extensive measure, will not be permitted to be fished for white fish in the Canadian Waters of Lake Ontario, this year under any circumstances. . . .

I shall seize all gill nets under the legal size, and confiscate them. - I signified my intention <sup>last year</sup> to the Niagara, and all other fishermen that I would do this. . . . No fishing whatever can be carried on, any more by an unlicensed fisherman. . . .

By Order.

Hamilton - Onto. . .  
1<sup>st</sup> June 1875.

John W. Kerr  
J. Overseer,  
Hamilton Div.

Sir,

4. June 1875.

I have the honor to receive back my application of 31. of May last, in regard to my former application made in behalf of Mr John Everett, of Bertie, village of Victoria, for a license to fish in the Niagara River. - please find copy of letter, and license herewith, that I sent you on the date referred to; also a copy of Bank cheque, bearing same date, and No: 163. -

It appears by my letter book, that I sent the Department, no other letter but this, on the 19. of March last. -

Jacob and John Everett, you refer to, are all right, they live in the township of Millborough. I received licenses for them and delivered them. -

For the John Everett I now refer to, I never got his license. -

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Hon: Minister

H. H. H.

Ottawa.



Notice. -

Set hauls for Sterring, and Seine hauling for Sterring; but what is called short hauls in the waters of Lake Ontario, at B. beach, are strictly forbidden until after the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August next. - -

And unless fishermen on B. beach will first secure and take out their season license, for this current year, they will not be permitted to fish for, nor catch, nor have <sup>fish</sup> of any kind. Only legal nets of every kind will be allowed to be fished in future under any circumstances. - -

Hamilton, Ont.  
1<sup>st</sup> June 1875. -

By Order. -  
John W. Kerr  
J. O.  
Hamilton Division. -

Tuesday. - 1<sup>st</sup> June 1875. -

at St. Catharines, Niagara, and the Four Mile Creek, James Cantwell paid me \$10. - gave him his license for current year, - gave licenses to Mr. Thomas Elliott, and John Bolton - Niagara - and to Mr. Elliott, for Longhurst, and Coy. - and Harry Sheppard. - thence back to St. Catharines and St. Bridge - and Home. - went out at 8, A. M. came in at 12.30. M. Night. - By fare to St. Catharines 1. Horse & Buggy. 2.50. dinner & tea 75. By fare St. Catharines to St. Bridge 45. from Br. to Hamilton, by fare 1.75 - 14 B. 1.50. Mile 121. -  
7.95

Wednesday, 2. June 1875. -

\* On B's Beach - all day, with Alderman George Lee,  
and Thomas Beasley - City Clerk. - to show them the  
Government property, fishing Reserve. John Dykes,  
deeded property etc, went out at 8. a.m. came in  
at 8. p.m. miles 26. St & B.  $\$3.00$ .

Thursday 4. June 1875. -

\* At Toronto, to make inquiry about Speckled  
Trout - per Captain Draper's Telegraph - Sec  
Report herewith. went out at 8. a.m. came in  
at 7. p.m. miles 92. Ry fare  $\$2.40$ , St. and  
W<sup>y</sup>  $\$2.00$ , dinner  $\$2.50$ . -

Sir,

20. May 1875.

I beg most respectfully to submit  
for your consideration a letter I received from  
a gentleman in Goderich, a few days ago.

I strongly recommend that you will be  
pleased to instruct the Local Overseer of the  
Goderich Division to see carried into effect,  
and operation the desire expressed by the  
Writer. - - -

The River Chautaud, which empties it-  
self into Lake Huron - at Goderich, has al-  
ways been celebrated for good angling  
heretofore. - - Submitted and recommend-  
ed that prompt action be taken in this  
matter, With much Respect,

Yours sincerely

I Have &c.

H. H.

Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
D. O. )

Sir,

5. June 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank draft, No: 48, for the sum of Ten dollars. - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as license fee, for Mr Henry Rolf, of Port Maitland, for this current year. -

the fr Mr Rolf, being the Original fisherman, of the Grand River at Dunville, and in Lake Erie, at Port Maitland, as highly deserving of your consideration, and my regards. - -

I recommend the license to issue to him, the same as last year. - and please send to me for delivery, after I countersign. -

With due respect,

Hon: Minister  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.

John W. Dyer  
D.O.

Tuesday, 8. June 1875.

On B. beach, saw Mr McFoyne, Sam: Corey. Adelaide Corey - a strange wife, - and John Haslet fishing with a Herring seine - hauled in a few herring, and perch, - went out at 7, a.m. - came in at 2.30, p.m. - yield 24. - 144 lbs. 2.50.

Heard that Dan McFoyne, and Ben; Gold made square haul on Saturday - and that Dan; and old Mr Gordon. Peared small white fish the previous Saturday at the square, Pr Nelson and Middle Road. - and a quantity to Mr Nevell - Ocean House. - that Bob; Bracht cleaned them. - - Jack Laff told me about the square haul being made. - -

Sir,

4. June 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith, the Telegram, I received from Captain Frank C. Draper, Chief Constable - Toronto. - -

In conformity with this information, I proceeded on yesterday to enquire into this matter at Toronto, and there found at Mr. Wm. Taylor's Establishment, Young Street, Speckled trout, furnished him by Mr. W. G. R. Smart, of Collingwood, from his Trout Pond, in Osprey. - - Mr. Smart is the person who owns and occupies a Pond of 75 acres in the township of Osprey, which he stocked with Speckled trout some years back at great expense; and protects them. - He is now disposing of them in Toronto, with your sanction, at 50¢ per pound. - Please refer to my letter of 1<sup>st</sup> of April last, and your reply thereto. - -

The Speckled trout I saw at Mr. Taylor's Establishment yesterday, however, did not appear to be caught with gill nets, and which I presume Mr. Smart does catch some of his trout in this way; while I deprecate unlicensed persons catching speckled trout with gill nets. - My impression is, Mr. Smart, should have a free license on the same licensed value as every other fisherman, from the Department of Marine and Fisheries - Ottawa, to fish for, catch, and kill Speckled trout in this pond, his property. - I recommend this for your consideration, and will submit with due respect, to your decision. - -

I have &amp;c.

Hon: Minister  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
J. Overton.



"Confidential". -

Sir,

7, May 1875.

I have the honor to report for your information, that on Tuesday last, at Pt. Burwell, I was credibly informed, that Wilson a fish pedlar of Tilsonburg - had a quantity of pickered in his possession at Ingersoll, on 14. of April. Contrary to law for sale, he had bought them from James Crockett, fisherman, Lake Erie, near Pt. Rowan, upon which I communicated with a friend from that town. -

By the Mayor's letter herewith, you will please learn the fate of the said Wilson and the pickered in this case. - -

I hope however, you will be pleased to instruct Mr. John A. Backhouse, the Overseer at St. Williams, to proceed at once agt. James Crockett, or any other person fisherman - who caught Wilson pickered. -

It was also told me at the same time, that other fishermen in that locality - L. Erie, had pickered penned up, ready for the market, when close season for this fish terminated. - - If Mr. B. - looks round he can find them. - All of which is respectfully Submitted.

I Have &c.

John W. Kent  
J. O.

Hon. Minister,

H. H. H.

Ottawa,

Mailed License for Wm. Montgomery - to Mr  
Patrick Gray - The Island - Toronto - 5. June 1875. -  
and license to Thos. L. Purdy, Vienna - do. -

Postage 24.

Wrote Sam Willmot, Fishery officer, - Newcastle, -  
" Joseph Gabriel Fisherman, Queenston, -  
" Sam Evans, Merchant, - Ottawa, - -  
" Thos. Elliott, Niagara, - Postage 124

My dear Mr. Elliott, and Mr. P. Gray Toronto, - 34

Will you be so good as to get from  
Caddy Hand for me a dozen of white fish, put them  
in a box - and address the box to Mr Armstrong, Station  
Master, at St. Bridge - on G. W. Ry. with my Compli-  
ments. -

Give box to the conductor of your Ry. and he  
will take it up and deliver it, as all Railway people  
do little things for one another. -

Having occasion to write you, the other day:  
I sent a notice about the size of white fish gill nets,  
and nets please any money, you may get from  
the fishermen at present fishing at Niagara keep it  
for me. - -

I have another warning, and I want you to  
deliver it for me. - - the fishermen, is allowed to  
fish on Sunday - Reports frequently reach my ears  
that Niagara fishermen continually fish up on Sunday.  
The Dept. at Ottawa are opposed to it, and so are  
our laws - and God's laws. Please for their own  
sake, and mine to give it up henceforth altogether. -

Please excuse me for asking you to do so  
much for me. -

My kind regards to your mother, Mr. Elliott,  
and the children - and believe me

My dear Sir. -

Mr Thos Elliott.  
Niagara. -

Yrs sincerely  
John W. Kent

5. June 1875.

My dear Captain,

Your letter of the 10<sup>th</sup> instant, just received please send me on receipt of this, the sum of five dollars, together with the name in full of the person for whom you apply, and I will obtain a license for him; William Elliott has no exclusive right to the fisheries. —

Believe me, My dear friend. —

Yrs fraternally. —

Captain Alexander McBride,  
Port Burwell.

John W. Kerr

St. Paul,

12. June 1875.

My dear Sir,

Your letter of 10. instant, just received, please let me have two dollars, and give me the number of your farm, and Conception in Malahide, and I will apply for, and get you a license to fish. —

Please state number of hooks and the yards of line you intend to fish. —

Yrs Truly,

John W. Kerr

St. P.,

12. June 1875.

Wm Barnum. —

Copenhagen P. Office,  
Malahide - Ont.

Thursday, 10. June 1875. —

At B. beach, with Constable McNair, took and seized Dan McGrogan herring seine. — J. Corey - whom I took to view Dan White fish seine is impressed with the belief, that the Centre of Red fish was not fished - only West, so as to make believe. — but the wings did appear to have been recently cut from Herring seine, and spliced on to the White fish Centre. Charles John, with me, took home Herring seine, thence to town, went out at 4.30. a.m., came in at 3. p.m. — Miles 28. — H4 W<sup>4</sup> 2.50. C. G. Kerr with me.

Sir,

12, June 1875,

I have the honor to report that on yesterday, before Judge, William Ligon Smart, and a Jury, at General Sessions held here, the conviction against Mr. B. D. Bates, fish dealer - for having white fish in his possession at Hamilton during close season; viz<sup>t</sup> on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of November 1874, was sustained with costs. . . .

This is the same Mr. B. D. Bates, referred to, in the Annual Fishing Report at page 152, for 1874<sup>th</sup>.

Frank Mackelcan Esq<sup>r</sup> Barrister here, by your order, prosecuted the case, and as complainant, I furnished him with all necessary information requisite to do so, to this successful issue. . . .

In conclusion, I have to report that this is the first, and the only conviction of the many, that was ever sustained by the Judge and Jury - at Hamilton, General Sessions; during my long services of ten years, and six months; - so that it does now really appear to me at least, that the protection of the fisheries, is at last established by this Hon<sup>ble</sup> Judge, and a Jury's decision. . . .

Mr. B. D. Bates, unlawful Conduct, with fine and costs, will amount to about fifty dollars. -

I have the honor

to be, Sir,

Yours,

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.



Sir.

12. Nov 1875.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 9<sup>th</sup>, instant, in reply to mine of 4 instant, relative to an enquiry I made on Complaint of Captain Draper, that speckled trout killed with gill nets was offered for sale on the Toronto Market. — and your remarks;

That you are slightly in error in stating that Mr. Smart, is disposing of this fish in Toronto, with the sanction of this Department when you asked on his behalf permission to catch trout from private ponds during March and April, you were simply answered that the close season terminating now on 1<sup>st</sup> of January, there was nothing to prevent him, from doing so; or in your own more explicit language "catching, and selling the same during the months of March and April?" —

In reply to all this; I have the honor to state, that on receipt of the order in Council, changing close season, for speckled trout, I sent Mr. Smart a copy of the same, and on the 29. of April last. I wrote him, this note — Copy.

Very dear Sir.

In reply to my report to the Department of Marine and Fisheries — Ottawa. — in your behalf, a copy of which I sent you, please find the Minister's reply herewith, which I hope will be deemed by you satisfactory. —

W. F. Smart Esq  
Collingwood.

John W. Kerr  
J. O. — Hamilton

I presume Mr. Smart labouring under a wrong or mistaken idea in a reckless fishing community, — that your reply of 23<sup>rd</sup> of April, to my application of 14<sup>th</sup> of April last, gave him a privilege to catch the speckled trout, imagined he could do so, with gill nets in his own pond. — I hinted to this,

in my report to you of the 4<sup>th</sup> instant. . .

However! this much I can now assure you that I never wrote anything to induce him to fish for, or catch or kill them with gill nets, and thereby violate section 8, of the Fisheries Act. —

The entire community can under the late order in Council catch or kill speckled trout by angling, but as I have already said, Mr Smart, has ~~already~~ likely imagined he could catch some of his with gill nets. —

And I believe, as I have already informed you, that Mr Smart, has been catching some of his speckled trout with gill nets, for I saw a small box of his fish in market here on Thursday, a fish of which appeared to have been so caught. . . .

And I did notice that these fish which attracted my attention for sale by Mr P. D. Bates fish dealer here on Thursday last, were in excellent condition, and I would have no hesitation in testifying if necessary, that they spawned out about the month of October last. —

I have written Mr Smart, on receipt of your letter, and drawn his attention to section 8, of the Fisheries Act; as I have not by any prior act of mine led him to believe, he could violate the law, by using gill nets. . . .

As I said in laying this matter before you, on the 4<sup>th</sup> instant, I now submit with due respect to your decision. —

P.S. — It was the illegality of Mr Smart's proceedings, when I was last up at Collingwood, which first drew my attention, and on my return I submitted the facts to you on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April last. —

Wm. Minister,  
F. F. F.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
John W. Kent  
D. O.

Friday, 11. June 1875,

at B. Beach, to examine Mr. Fish Series, and forbid fishermen using Sterring Seine, until 1<sup>st</sup> of August next - ordered all gill nets out during seine hauling, within two miles of a seine hauling ground. - John Connor paid me \$4.50¢. Mortimer Crag - paid me 10¢ license fee for current year. - went out at 5. p.m. came in at 1. a.m. (12 instant), mile 24. - seine hauling going on - all catching fish. - C. J. Kerr, with me. - at Court previous part of day.

Saturday 12. June 1875. -

at B. beach this evening, to see how matters were going on. - Jack Baolfe and Wm. Bodkins preparing to haul. - saw Bob. Bradt, heard all about him; selling white fish to Mr. Steville, went out at 5. p.m. came in at 11.30. p.m. Miles 26. Ht Wt 3.00, Fred. Kerr, with me. - -

My dear Sir,

Your letter, was received by me a short time ago. You can have a license this year for you three, for four dollars, as I suppose you all intend to fish in the same boat. -

Please send me money and the entire number of yards of gill net, you intend to fish, and I will send to Ottawa and obtain a license for you.

Isaac Durham Esq  
Grimsby, P. Office.

Yrs Truly,  
Ezekiel W. Kerr

D. O.,  
15 June 1875.

Sir,

14, June 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank cheque No: 64, for thirty dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as license fees, for this current season, as follows; —

1. Daniel McGwynne, License to fish on seine hauling ground, No: 11, in Lake Ontario, on B. beach, for this current season, as per copy of license herewith, \$10.00,
  2. Mortimer Corey - License to fish on seine hauling ground No: 3, in Lake Ontario, on B. Beach for this current year, License to be filled up, except in number of station, and the name, the same as License Copy - herewith in the name of Daniel McGwynne. — \$10.00,
  3. — John Yacoffe, License to fish on seine hauling ground No: 9, in Lake Ontario, on B. beach, for this current season, \$10.00
- He. He. He. He. He. He. Total, \$30.00

Will you be pleased to <sup>let me</sup> have these original licenses without delay. —

I Have He.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister,  
Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
J. A.



lit.

15. June 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank  
cheque No: 66, - for the sum of Twenty dollars. --

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
as fishing license fees, for this current year, as follows;  
No: 1. - David Fitch, license to fish a white fish  
serge, on seine hauling ground No: 7, in Lake Ontario,  
on B: Bel, for this current year, license to be filled up,  
except in number of station, and the name, the same  
as license copy - sent on yesterday, on behalf of  
Daniel McGwynne. -

2, Benjamin Golder. - license to fish a white fish seine, on seine hauling ground No. 5, in Lake Ontario, on B. Beh for this current season. &c. &c. &c. &c. No. 00.

Total \$ 20.00 ✓

Will you be pleased to let me have the original licenses without delay.

C<sup>d</sup> Name of

on Minutes

2 8

9 Anna,

John W. Kern,  
T. A.

Sir,

16. June 1875.

I have the honor to report for your information, that I can now sell to a Licensed fisherman, for about forty dollars - the seine net, I seized at Port Dalhousie on the 30 day of April 1873, the property of Peter Bath, for Contraventions of the Fisheries Act. -

Peter Bath, was convicted at the time, and paid his fine - when this small seine net was confiscated, may I sell it, and send the money to the Department. -

Hon: Minister,  
 & & &  
 Ottawa,

I Have &c,  
 John W. Kerr  
 D. O.

My dear Sir,

Yours of 15, just received, you - you require a license! - please send me number of hook, yard of night line - and one dollar - and I will supply you and get you a license. -

The law requires every one who fishes with nets, or other apparatus to have a license.

Yrs Truly  
 John W. Kerr  
 D. O.

16. June 1875.

Mr Lyman Lewis  
 District P. Officer,  
 East Elgin.

Postage  
 30

My dear Sir,

I have received your license  
and I will take it to you early next week.

Y<sup>rs</sup> respectfully.

Joseph Woodhouse Esq  
Sheriff of Lincoln,  
St Catherine's.

John W. Kerr.

S. O.

19, June 1875.

Monday 14, June 1875. -

On B. beach, to see the hauling Jack Saaffe  
told me that Bodkins and Mortimer Corey, fished  
on Monday morning, up as far as Fred's bays.  
went out at 4.30, p.m. came in at 12. M. H. miles  
24. Horse and W<sup>th</sup> 2.50, also at Bob's court.  
David Gitch - paid me 10. - E. L. De B. Ker with me.

Wednesday 16, June 1875. -

On attendance in case aft Mr Eliza McElroyne,  
and others - thence to B. Beach. Fred's Ker, with me,  
went out at 5. p.m. came in at 12.30, a.m. miles  
26. - down by Stoney Creek Road. - 44 W<sup>th</sup> 3.00.

Friday 18, June 1875. -

at Winona - Mr Hand - paid me 9 - Paddy her  
husband owed me, hear from Bill Hand - that  
Mortimer Corey, was selling small white fish, near  
Winona, and on Mountain. Saltfleck, and in Grimsby  
on Friday the 11. of June. people at Grimsby would  
not buy such small fish - went out at 5. a.m.  
came in at Noon. - miles about 32, 44 W<sup>th</sup> 3.00.

Saturday 19, June 1875.

On B. Beach, Thomas Martin paid me last year's  
license fee 10. & delivered license to Daniel  
McElroyne, Ben. Golds, John Saaffe, Col. Villier's  
David Gitch, Mortimer Corey, all except the  
Colonel for white fish, have hauling ground.

in each of the Licenses - a clause is inserted thus, -

"In order to protect the young White fish - Herring  
Seines, will not be allowed to <sup>be</sup> fished nor used on this  
ground, under any pretence whatever." -

On my return home, met Dan: McFuzne, with a  
Horse and Wagon, Hamilton side of Spoken River,  
he did not speak and altho' spoken to at the time,  
he drove from a walk on rapidly toward home.  
Dr. Hitch told me that Herring gill nets - would  
Catch & kill small 10lb; fish, and recommended  
me to stop such fishing. - Mr. McFuzne told  
me confidentially - that Ben: Gould, had not taken  
out his 3 1/2 inch mesh - hence why he was catching  
so much more fish than they did... this was given  
me in strict Confidence - with great Caution, went out  
at 4. p.m. came in at 12.30. a.m. July 28 84 & 1/2  
3.00. Charley John Kerr, with me. -



Sir,

16. June 1875,

I have the honor to report that on yesterday,  
Mr. Eliza McFoyne, was fined 5, and Costs. -

Adelaide Corey, " 1. and Costs. -

Samuel Corey, " 1. and Costs. -

John Staslet, " 1. and Costs. - before

James Cahill Esq J. P., Police Magistrate, adjourned cases, for fishing for, catching and killing herring in Lake Ontario at B. Beh, the 8. day of June instant, without a license, from the Department of Marine and Fisheries, - Ottawa - in contravention of the Fisheries Act, were finally disposed of, as above - and Wm. Smith, and Wm. A. Abville, were fined 1, each, and Costs, for buying white fish, from Dan McFoyne, a fisherman, that were caught in an illegal hauling seine, without license. - - -

In order to carry out strictly your order in Council, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June 1874, permitting Seining for White fish during the months of June and July, I posted up the annexed written notice and talked with all the seine hauling fishermen, to the same effect, but Dan McFoyne, a wrecker, fishermen - and his crew disregarded my words and the written notices. - -

C. A. Sadler Esq Barrister, has signified his intention to appeal to Quarter Sessions, to be held here next December; instead of to the Judge in Chambers, which I heard can be done at once under the Ontario Statute of 1874: - While subsection 6, of section 16, of the Fisheries Act, states that "any person aggrieved by any such conviction may appeal by petition to the Minister who shall have power to remit fines and restore forfeitures under this Act." - Will you be pleased to empower me to employ Frank Mackelcan Esq Barrister, here, to again act in behalf of the department in these cases,

The cases against Dan. McFoyne have been further adjourned until next Wednesday. -

I Have &c.

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa,

John W. Kerr  
D.O.

Port Regis, June 18. 1875.

Rev. Mr. Kerr { Sir,  
Hamilton,

I have been informed that parties are fishing with trap or gourd nets in Lake Erie, on the Canada side and would feel obliged by your informing me if such is the case, and if so, by what authority, they are doing so, as I understand that such things are illegal. -

Read, copied, and  
sent to Minister this  
day. 19. June 1875. =

Yours truly,  
Geo. Eastwood.

Sir,

19. June 1875.

I have the honor to send you enclosed herewith, a letter which I received this day from Mr. John Eastwood, late Overseer of Fisheries, at Southampton, Lake Huron. -

It appears Mr. John Eastwood is at present a Irish dealer in Port Regis. - What his object is, in writing me I cannot conceive. -

I have not, and shall not write) answer his letter, unless under your sanction, and advice, as the matter to which he refers is not now in my division.

Hon. Minister  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
John W. Kerr  
D.O.

John W. Kerr Esq

Dear Sir, - I presume you have heard that Stutton, who leased the fishing ground here, has left for the other side, without paying his debts; The object of my writing you however is to make application for said fishing grounds for a person I wish to befriend. -

Yours truly,

June 18, 1875. -

Your reply, &c. will oblige

Yrs Respectfully, &c.

Edwin Thomas. -

Read and submitted to the Hon: the Minister,

22, June 1875. -

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Edwin

22, June 1875.

I have the honor to submit, and report for your information, that the enclosed letter was received by me today - from Mr Edwin Thomas, a gentleman, resident in Port Erie. - It is so far the only information, I have had as yet on the subject. -

Mr George Stutton - the Lessee, of the best fisheries at Port Erie - in the Niagara River, always proved himself a warm friend to the fisheries, and although convicted by me last season, for a contravention of the fisheries Act, he gave me much assistance to compel others to obey the fisheries laws, &c.

He paid his fishing license fee of \$50. this season, so that I need not be in any hurry to dispose of the fisheries. - Mr Thomas friend must wait a while. With due Respect,

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Confidential for Mr. Whitaker -

Sir,

21. June 1875,

I have the honor to recommend that a free li-  
cense be issued to Mr. J. H. Corey, of O. Beach, for this  
current season, of fishing station No. 13. in Lake Ontario,  
at O. Beach. -

The license to be the same in every respect as  
that issued to Dan: McGurne, and other fishermen  
there, this season, except No. of station and name. -

It is consequence of Mr. Corey - giving me  
such valuable assistance at all times - that I ask  
and recommend this privilege to be granted to him  
by you. With due respect,

I have &c.

John W. Kerr

J. O.

Hon: Minister,

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

Monday. 21. June 1875. -

\* On O. Beach. - J. H. Corey - just landing after  
buying Mr. Bouldrie's Seine - measured Centre -  
which is full size - measured Ben: Gold -  
found piece next the Centre too small - order-  
ed it to be taken out. - Saw Dr. Hitch and  
Jack Gault - supposed to appear on Wednes-  
day next as witnesses agt Dan: McGurne,  
John Corey - having a disabled hand allowed  
him to fish sterring gill nets. - He has a wife  
and three small children, - Heard that Dan: had  
bought Mr. Waddell's sterring Seine - went out  
at 1. p. m. came in at 7. p. m. - mile 26. H. O.  
# 2  
3.00. -



Sir,

26, June 1875.

I have received your letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> instant, with licence for the St. Catharines Game Club, for this current year. -- And not receiving the license fee \$20. -- I was led to believe by your letter. I would, I waited myself on Joseph A. Woodruff Esq<sup>r</sup>, the President - on yesterday, and having shown him your letter, I got the money from him. --

Mr James Miller haud and haud about paying it, as Mr Whitche in a former letter, said so to him, it should be free. -- A wealthy Club, who gets so much privilege, I can never recommend to receive them under a free license, to the prejudice of licensed fishermen and the public community. --

I now send back the license. -- Will you be pleased to make out another license, and add 200, yards on the east pier, 200 yards in front, and 100, yards on the West pier of the 12 mile Creek, or Welland Canal, in Lake Ontario, at Port Dalhousie. --

As regards the remarks you have found it necessary and proper to make upon part of the language of my report; I have only to assure you in explanation of the same, that I admit my zeal for the fishing may have carried me too far, but beyond that; I have never had any personal feelings to gratify towards Mr James Miller, nor any body else. --

With due respect.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
J. W.

Hon. Minister,  
Ottawa.

Sir,

26. June 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank  
cheque No: 79, of this date, for the sum of \$68, dollars. -

This amount you will be pleased to apply as li-  
cense fees, for this current year. - - -

1. Mr Thomas Elliott, Seine hauling license in the, Nia-  
gara River, and Lake Ontario, at Niagara, same as  
last year - "at reduced fee" the fixing of the militia  
there, having stopped his fishing. - - - \$6.00
2. Mr John Bolton - Seine hauling ground, at the  
two mile Creek - Lake Ontario, in the township of  
Niagara, the same as last year. - - - 10.00.
3. Messrs Charles and Alfred Ball - of the town  
of Niagara - Boat License - same as last  
Season - Only to fish gill nets of Regulation  
mesh. - - - 5.00.
4. Mr Englebert, - Boat License, Residence at  
Blount, license to be the same as the previous  
one, - Only gill nets of regulation meshes to  
be fished, in Lake Ontario. - - - 5.00.
5. Messrs Patrick and John Staud, License to  
fish in Lake Ontario, in front of the town-  
ship of Grimsby, - per copy of license here-  
with \$20, for Season - on a/c<sup>t</sup> herewith - 15.00.
6. The President, Directors, and Members of the  
Peninsula Fish and Game Club of St  
Catherines, license sent back to be ex-  
tended in limits, - - - 20.00
7. Dan McGoyne - License to fish in B: bay,  
for Seine - up to 1<sup>st</sup> of May <sup>\$5</sup> and pike gill nets  
in ditto <sup>\$2</sup> these licenses to be the same as  
those issued to cover the fishing done in  
that respect. - - - 7.00.

With due respect,

Total. \$68.00

Hon: Minister -

I Have &amp;c.

H. H. H.

John H. H.

Ottawa. -

J. H.

Tuesday 22. June 1875.

at Pt. Beach, and brought down seine for Mr. St. J. Birley - handed same over to W. A. Deville - got Jack Laaffe to repair it - went out at 2. p. m. came in at 11. p. m. Miles 26.  $\$4$   $W_{\text{m}}$   $3.00$  - Fred: Kerr. with me. -

Wednesday, 23. June 1875. -

at Pt. Beach brought down five pounds of Ho. g. Soft twine - for to net wings for J. H. Corey - Seine - he paid me  $2.25$  - for it - attended Police Court - the trial against Dan: McJoyne put off - till Saturday. - Met Dan: on my return home who asked me the result of the trial - I told him - He told me he was going to take up Fred: Corey - for fishing an illegal net - I told him I was ready to receive the Complaint any moment. - whenever he was ready to make it - said he would do it tomorrow. - Went out at 3. p. m. came in at 12. m. n.  $\$4$   $W_{\text{m}}$   $3.00$  - Miles 26.

Friday, 25. June 1875. -

at St. Catharines and Niagara, Jack Bolton, paid  $\$10$ . license fee, Thomas Elliott  $5$ . license fee, John Stand  $10$ . license fee, Charles and Alfred Ball  $5$ . license fee. - Patrick Stand,  $\$5$ . license fee, Wm. Engledew  $5$ . license fee. - Sheriff Jos: A. Woodruff, paid me  $\$20$ . for license fee. of 12. 15. and Nile Creek and ponds - for fish and game club. - went out at 8. a. m. came in at 8. p. m. Miles 100. Ref. fare  $2.00$ . Horse & B:  $3.50$ . dinner  $\$1.00$ . - see report of 26<sup>th</sup> for particulars. -

4 Saturday, 26, June 1875;

at Police Court, - then home and to B: Bch  
went to find out W<sup>th</sup> Charles Gordon, - found him  
at G. H. Corey's, - gave summonses to Fred: Corey.  
went out at 8, a.m., came in at 8, p.m.,  
Miles 28. - 844 W<sup>th</sup> 3.00. - Jack Laaffe, and David  
Fitch - both summoned up, to give evidence at  
the instance of Dan: McGoyne. -

Heard Bodkins was drunk - and that  
he fished on Charles Corey's ground. - he has  
not paid his license fee yet. -

my dear Sir,

Please find your license for current  
year, corrected herewith; the reason why, the 20, fee  
is exacted you will please find by Mr. Whiteley's letter  
herewith. -

Y<sup>rs</sup> Respectfully,

John W. Kerr

Geo: A. Woodruff Esq  
Sheriff of Lincoln  
St. Catharines.

J. Oversee

Hamilton, Onto.

2. July 1875,

Monday, 28, June 1875.

4 at Police Court, having gone to B: Bch  
in the morning, and brought up W. Charles  
Gordon from there to Hamilton as witness  
in case agt: Dan: McGoyne - selling illegal  
caught fish. - went out at 4, a.m., came  
in at 1, p.m., Miles 32, 844 B. 3.00, gave  
Gordon 1.50. as fees. - J. H. Corey was sum-  
moned up by Dan: McGoyne for fishing on an  
illegal seine - he was fined \$1. and Cost  
Bob: Oradth \$1 and Costs, and Mr. McGoyne  
\$1. and Costs in all \$11. - Fred: Corey was  
one to blame but himself, I cautioned  
him. - - C. J. Kerr went



Sir,

7. July 1875.

I have the honor to send you, Bank draft No. 99<sup>th</sup>, dated this day, for a further sum of \$20.-

Will you be pleased to apply this amount in full, for license fee, to the credit of Messrs David Mead, and Patrick Gray - for the fishing at Toronto Island, &c. &c. in Lake Ontario, for this current year, the license having already received by me and delivered to them. ---

Hon. Minister

H. H. H. ( )  
Ottawa. >

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Sir,

7. July 1875.

I have the honor to apply to you in behalf of Mr. Edward Baine - Toronto, for permission to build a small wharf in Black House Bay, part of Toronto Bay, on Toronto Island, where he can land his small steam yacht, the *Albion L. Baine*.

The place indicated is a few feet south of Mr. Patrick Gray's wharf, at which Mr. Baine would have had permission to land, only that it has been already fixed by <sup>an</sup> agreement to run only the Transit pleasure steamer there, this season. ---

Mr. Hugh Baine - the father of the applicant has a summer residence on this part of the Island, and it is to accommodate the family and friends this small wharf is needed. ---

Mr. Gray, who rents the fishing here is quite agreeable, and applied to me in behalf of the application being granted. ---

There is an old wharf the *Albion* that was burned down to the water's edge several years past, lying in 12 feet of water where Mr. Baine can build his wharf on,

I recommend that you will be pleased  
to grant the permission sought for, without  
delay. —

With due respect,

I Have &c,

Hon. Minister  
H. H. H.  
A. W. A.

John W. Kerr

P. O.

Sir,

9. July 1875.

I have the honor to report for your information  
that on Monday, 2<sup>d</sup> June, I had Dan McEwryne, a fisher-  
man on B. Bch, in Lake Ontario, arraigned. — For fishing  
an illegal net, herring seine, on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June last, in  
L. Ontario, without a license, and for catching white fish  
with the same, and selling them in contravention  
of the Fisheries Act. —

In carrying out your orders, and to protect  
the young white fish, I issued an order on 1<sup>st</sup> day  
of June last, to the fishermen on B. Bch, that no  
herring seines shall be fished until after the 1<sup>st</sup>  
day of August next. —

Since then on your issuing the white fish  
seine hauling licenses for the grounds of the fishes-  
men on B. Bch you have strongly borne out and  
strengthened my previous order, by inserting in each  
license, ~~your~~ since issued by you, the following  
clause: — In order to protect young white fish,  
no herring seines shall be set or fished un-  
der no pretence whatever on this seine hauling  
ground. — — —

I find however, that this language is  
amplified strong enough to meet the reckless-  
ness and defiant conduct of Dan McEwryne, and  
his wife — Mrs. Eliza McEwryne. —

I therefore strongly recommend that  
all the fishing licenses issued to Dan McEwryne

for this current year, and carried on by him his wife and crew, in Lake Ontario, B. B. shall be cancelled on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of July, because of his repeated violations, and contraventions of the Fisheries Act, annually committed by him. -- Altho his crew, (3 persons) plead guilty to the offence of fishing, catching, and killing fish, with an illegal net, and he pays fine and costs, for them; and two persons admit buying white fish, so illegally caught, and for which they were also fined, but did not appeal. -- Please observe, Dan McGoyne for selling, illegal caught fish, and for fishing without a license - and his wife Mrs. Eliza McGoyne, for fishing with the same crew at the same time, as above, have appealed to a higher Court: thus again showing a defiant determination to set the Fisheries Act, and your kindness in permitting ~~the fisherman~~ seine hauling - at open defiance and of none effect. --

The other fishermen on B. B. are opposed to McGoyne's wickedness, and open defiance of your authority: - after mature consideration I therefore strongly recommend that you will be pleased to deem it advisable, for the better protection of the fish and fisheries in Lake Ontario, on B. B. - and particularly on seine hauling grounds No. 11 - there, to cancel all Dan McGoyne fishing licenses for this current year, - from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August next, to 31<sup>st</sup> of December next, inclusive, which I hope will have the effect finally stopping him in his mad wild and I regret to add drunken career. --

It will have a good effect on others,  
as well as on Dan McFayne, his wife and  
crew. - With due respect,

I Have &c,

Hon. Minister

&c. &c. &c.

E. H. H. H.

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Tuesday, 29, June 1875.

On B. B. Sch - found all regular, went  
out at 6. p.m. came in at 11. p.m. M.  
26. - 144 B. 3.00. -

Friday 2, July 1875.

\* On B. B. Sch Mr. H. Corey gave me \$8. to  
hand James Cahill Esq. to Magistrate the  
next day. went out at 6.30. p.m. came in  
at 12. M. N. got fish from Ben. Gold  
treated his crew \$0.50 & bought 55 worth  
of fish two trout from Jack Laaffe,  
J. Kerr with me. - 144 B. 2.50. Miles 26..

\* Tuesday 6, July 1875,

at Toronto, Mr. P. Gray paid \$20. license fee  
see my letter to department, on Toronto Island,  
see my Osage application to build a wharf.  
went out at 9. a.m. came in at 1. p.m.  
Miles 46. Ry 1.30, boat 50, 144 B. 1.50, dinner,  
tea and bed 75. - 35 4.05.

\* Wednesday, 7, July 1875.

On the Island. Toronto, and home, went  
out at 6.30. a.m. came in at 11. a.m.  
Miles 46, Ry fare 1.30. boat 50, breakfast 25,  
2 2.05.



Sir.

10. July 1875. -

I have the honor to send you herewith my account and diary duly Certified, and petty expenses during the quarter ending the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June last. -

I find, I have travelled during the quarter just ended. - 2535 miles. -

To amount of Diary, &c. -	<sup>#</sup> 172.75.
" Voucher No: 1. - Office Rent. -	5.00.
" do. - " 2. Wooden Barrel. -	2.50.
" do. - " 3. Postage, &c. -	2.41.
" do. - " 4. Telegraphs. -	4.78.
" do. - " 5. Two Boatmen. -	10.00.
" do. - " 6. Express Charges. -	2.00.
" do. - " 7. One Boatman. -	15.00
	<u>\$ 214.44</u>

all of which is respectfully submitted. -

I Have &c.

Hon: Minister,  
H. H. H.  
O'Hara.

John W. Kerr  
S. A.

\* Saturday 10. July 1875.

On B. beach - all night - went out at 5. p. m. Came in at 11.30. p. m. Miles 26. -  
49 B. 3.00. -

\* Monday, 12. July 1875.

at Minona, to see Paddy Hand, and caution him about his nets and fishing grounds - in front of Grimsby. - Got four white fish for O'Hara 1.20. and 2. Drout 50 each 1. went out at 5. a. m. Came in at 12. Noon. Miles 34. 49 B. 3.00. -  
Expressed fish to O'Hara charges 1.35

Sir.

14, July 1875.

I have the honor to apply to you for annual licenses for ~~the~~ John Bolton, and Mr Thomas Elliott, of Niagara. for this current season. -

The annexed copy of your letter, enclosing the other licenses, I had applied for, in my letter to you of the 26, of June last, will I hope be sufficient authority, coupled with my blunt assertion now, that I never then - from the fact, that while I received some of the licenses, I did not the two, now again asked for. -

Perhaps! they may have been accidentally enclosed from your office, to some other fishery office. - I am positive I never received them.

I Have &amp;c

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.,  
Ottawa,

\* Sunday, 11, July 1875.

at Fages Inlet, to prevent persons fishing and bathing, went out at 9.30. a.m. & came in at 3.30. p.m. till 10. At P. 2.50 ordered seven persons away. -

Sir.

14. July 1875.

I have the honor to renew my application of the 28. of May last, for license to Mr Rosana Bath, and James Williams of Port Dalhousie, for seine hauling. ---

The license to be the same as last year, except; that should be: Commencing at a given point 200 yards west of the Welland Canal, &c. &c.

Now that the St. Catharines Game Club have had their license, I hope there is no longer anything to stop this license being issued. -- It is already paid for. ---

I recommend that the license be issued at once.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Hon. Minister,  
4. 4. 4.

Friday 16. July 1875.

At B. Bch - found G. H. Corey, Jacob Corey, and Henry Rodkin's reeling up his seine - found about 20 yards of St. seine, on one end of the seine - had it cut out, and given to me by G. H. Corey, as illegal to be fished in White fish seine. --

Subsequently charged G. H. Corey, Rob. Breat, Jacob Corey, and Henry Rodkin, with fishing for Catfish with fish with an illegal seine, in contravention of the fishing Act. - having previously notified G. H. Corey not to do so, they all admitted the offence. I fined them accordingly - went out at 4.30. A.M. came in at 9.30. A.M. Miles 24. Oil & Water 3.00. ---

Let

14. July 1875.

I have the honor to send you annexed a notice for to sell Villa site on B. Bay. These lots are in front of a Seris hauling ground in B. Bay, and have the fishery reserve of one chain from the water edge, and which I perceive part of which is included in the depth measurement of each lot.

Will you be pleased to instruct me at once, what I shall do, to protect the fishery reserve in tact, from being encroached upon by the sellers and buyers of this squatted on property.

Hon. Minister  
H. H. H.

H. H. H.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr

H. H.

My dear Maon. — "Private"

Yours received. I thank you for the information it contains. — I will endeavor to be with you on tomorrow evening; have your boat ready! — and be cautious; be well posted as to where I can find the Seris, ropes, boat &c, if they are not on the ground. — Tell no person that I am coming down, and have for me the names of all the persons who fished for, caught and killed white fish, with this illegal Seris, and without a license; — I wonder Coman, has not written me. — I need hardly caution you more.

Joe Maon Esq  
Hon. Minister

Yrs Sincerely  
John W. Kerr  
H. H.

Monday. 19. July 1875.



Box 372, P.O. office.

My dear Sir,

Hamilton,

I am in receipt of yours of the 14, instant, if you will be pleased to give me as you propose the names of the saw and shingle mill owners, who permit saw dust, and mill rubbish to be thrown into the speckled trout streams to which you have reference, I will submit the matter to the Department at Ottawa, and will recommend to have the same abated at once. —

Please send me the list, and I will have it attended to. —

J. W. Anderson Esq  
Box 59, - Elora.

Yrs truly,  
John W. Kerr  
J. W.

Hamilton, 14, July 1875.

Postage  $4\frac{1}{2}$

† Tuesday, 20, July 1875. —

at Winona to get fish for Ottawa, but I did not succeed, went out at 4, a. m. Came in at 11, a. m. Miles 32.  $4\frac{1}{2}$   $4\frac{1}{2}$   $2.50$ . —

† Tuesday 20, July 1875. —

at Toronto, Pt Union, Frenchman bay. — and up the Range, found Joe Black, John Van Stom, James Palmer — had been fishing — went out at 2, p. m. Came in at 4, a. m. Miles 68. By fare  $1.85$  Sea, and had  $65$ . Boat hire from Pt Union to J. bay — up the Range and back with two men during the night  $4$ . —  $1\frac{1}{2}$   $3.50$

See here  
X

Saw Thomas Mansfield, Joe Black and Salisbury Wright, Harry Mason, and Meich with me in boat. —

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to inform  
Messrs John Bolton & Coy - fishermen - who fish for  
wh: f. gill nets, for white fish in Lake Ontario at  
Niagara - that I have received their petition to the  
Hon: the Minister, and have forwarded the same  
this day - and believe me. -

Yrs Sincerely, -

John W. Kerr

H. O.

19. July 1875.

Mr Thomas Elliott,  
Niagara.

Wednesday - 21, July 1875.

at Pt Union, Toronto and Hamilton, went out  
at 9. A.M. came in at 1. P.M. Mile 60. Ry fare  
1.85. Breakfast and dinner 65. - Total 2.50

Heard from Joe Black - that he paid Mr  
Moses Smith for me \$5. for License fee, the  
same at Frenchman's bay - are equal. -

22<sup>nd</sup> July 1875.

Wrote Pat: Gray and John Stared - 64  
postage. -

21. July 1875.

Wrote. S. P. Bausch.

That James Cahill Esq J. P.  
was going to give all the fishermen on Pt. Pelee  
for same fishing for white fish between the 30<sup>th</sup>  
day of May, and 1<sup>st</sup> of August, altho' being  
done under a Renewed Order in Council. -

Sir,

19. July 1875.

I have the honor to state for your information that on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June 1874, you were pleased to issue to me the ordered order in Council, permitting Seining for White fish, between the 30<sup>th</sup> of May and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August 1874. -

I was in the Fishery Department, at Ottawa, on the 24. day of April last, when Mr. W. F. Whitaker, the Commissioner of Fisheries, and I discussed this matter, when Mr. W. told me he would have the order in Council renewed again for this current year. - -

Licenses have been since issued and Seine fishing for White fish only, has been regularly carried on by Seine haulers on B. B. Sch from the 30. of May last, up to the present day. - - -

This day, G. H. Corey - a licensed fisherman of Station 13. in Lake Ontario, B. B. Sch was brought before James Cahill Esq. J. P. Police Magistrate of Hamilton, by Dan. McFoyne another licensed fisherman, for fishing for, catching and killing White fish, with a Seine on the 10<sup>th</sup> of July instant, in Lake Ontario, at B. B. Sch, this making your order in Council null, void, and of no effect, while mind you Dan McFoyne has been himself fishing a Seine for White fish, and doing the very same thing in fishing Station No. 11. B. B. Sch from 30. of May last, up to this day, on the authority guaranteed to me by the Commissioner for all. -

The Case against Corey & Co. was adjourned until next Saturday, so that I might apply to you, for the order in Council as printed in the Gazette, also the renewal of the order in Council, and the Gazette in which the

same has been printed and published. -

These proceedings of McGurne against Corey, is the result of malice, and not the good nor protection of our fisheries. - - -

I have &c.

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

Hon. Minister of  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa,

Sir,

17, July 1875.

I have the honor to submit for your consideration a petition from seven accused fishermen, who fish White fish gill nets &c, in American and Canadian waters of Lake Ontario, at Niagara. - - - The petition is only signed by the Mayor, the Reeve of the town, two Magistrates, and thirty four residents of the town and township of Niagara, who recommended that the within petition be granted. -

However, all this is a very small proportion of the town and township population who number 3,693 persons. -

In the discharge of my duty last season, I was obliged to fine five of the seven fishermen who now petition you; I find moreover you subsequently, in your last Annual Report at page 152, allude to this, thus: "Gill nets and boats were also seized and fines imposed on five persons for catching Wh. fish with nets of too small mesh." - -

These fishermen received back their boats and nets, with the caution that they should not again repeat the offence, and that they should replace the gill nets restored to them - by Wh. fish gill nets of legal size, as those given back would wear out. -

3



This year, on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of June last, in order to keep these fishermen up to the mark, I issued my Order herewith marked B, and which I know has been instrumental in bringing out this petition. . . .

My experience is decidedly opposed to fishing with fish gill nets under full fine mesh. -

White fish caught with gill nets at Niagara this year sold at 15 per hundred fish, an increase of  $\$2\frac{1}{2}$ , over the price of last year. -

Mr. Whitaker is aware that I have been practically testing successfully the fish gill net fisheries of Lake Ontario, in part of the township of Grimsby, during the past three years, to which you have kindly alluded in your last Annual Report of my division; last clause, at page 153. - how then is it possible for me to recommend the prayer of a petition to be granted, that want to perform a retrograde movement, I cannot recommend the prayer of the annexed petition to be granted. . . .

Seven fishermen, gill net fishers, who signed this petition, want all manner of things, copies of application p<sup>os</sup>. 1, for three of them. - and my reply p<sup>os</sup>. 2, here too, will point out this. - I hope therefore that you will be so pleased, as to hear me out in the law, as it is, and with which the petitioners themselves are it appears quite familiar, and as in duty bound. -

I have &c,

John W. Shaw  
N. A.

Hon. Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries  
Ottawa,

My dear Sir,

I was at Frenchman Bay, and the Rouge on last Tuesday night endeavouring to catch Joe Black, David Thompson, James Palmer, John Van-Strom &c, fishing a seine for white fish in Lake Ontario there, without a license, when I learned that they had given you five dollars, to send me on afet of the license for this current year; when I deferred taking action until I heard from you; please answer, and give me all particulars, and send their money. My kind regards to Mrs Smith, your son, and all other members of the family. -

Yrs sincerely,

John W. Kerr

H. A.

Hamilton, Ont.

26. July 1875.

Moses Smith Esq  
Duffin's Creek.

Anything Wrong at the mouth of  
Duffin's Creek, Yrs

J. W. Kerr.

\*, Saturday, 24. July 1875.

At 10:30 A.M. announced my decision, in cases against W. H. Corey, Robert Beatt, Stanley Bodkin, and Jacob Corey, for fishing an illegal seine, see back to the 11. instant, afterwards attended the Police Court, was sworn, but before I gave my evidence, C. A. Sadler, and D. B. Chisholm - Barristers - arranged the matter between McFoyne vs. W. H. Corey. Dan, as a matter of course putting in a proviso - that I was give him back his 14. Seine - I of course said I would recommend the matter to the Hon: Minister when Dan paid all costs &c. &c. &c. went out at 4. A. M. came in at

My dear Sir,

Up to this time, Messrs Stough, and Brew-  
ster, have delayed sending me their  
license fee for this current year, 8 dollars, four dollars  
each. -

May I take the liberty of advising you,  
so that you will be pleased to remind them  
of their forgetfulness, I have their licence on hand,  
waiting for their money. My fraternal regards to  
you, &c.

Harry Gross Esq  
London. Onto

John W Kern  
D.O.

26, July 1875.

2.30. p.m. Mid 30. 544 W<sub>3</sub> 3.00. —

\* Tuesday, 27. July 1875. -  
at Winona, got four wh; fish, and a great  
fish - from Paddy Island - got Abbauna, ex=  
prepared the same - went out at 5. a. m.  
came in at 3.30 p. m. - shilly 36. 44 Wh;  
<sup>\$</sup><sub>3.00</sub>, <sup>\$</sup>expels charges <sup>\$</sup><sub>1.35</sub>. -

\* Friday 30. July 1875. --  
At the Police Court, being notified the day before  
by McNair, a constable that he had summoned  
up James Keivill, - Grennan Green, - Charles Sealey, -  
Angus Fraser, and ~~Wm~~ Campbell, of Strathgairn and  
Proqueston - township of East, and West  
Dunbarro, - went out at 9, a. m. came in at  
2, p. m. - thence to Os. beach, got private in-  
formation that Jack Laiffe hauled for Storrington  
that morning. got home at 9.30 p. m. Miles 30,  
54 & W<sup>m</sup> 3.00.

Sir,

28. July 1875.

I have the honor to recommend for your information and consideration, that Seining for Herring on B. Beach in Lake Ontario, may be now permitted by you from the 2<sup>d</sup> day of August next, up to, and including the 14. of October next, and only by what is termed set hauls, that is by placing one end of the seine always on the beach, with remainder of the seine run out into the Lake. . . . Any deviation from this rule of Herring, Seine fishing, to be instantly punished by fine and forfeiture of net and seines. -

The fishermen to whom, I recommend this permission may be granted, are as follows; -

No: 1. John Connor, B. Beach. -

" 2. McChewich Corey, do. -

" 3. - Mortimer Corey. - do. -

" 4. - Benjamin Goulds. - do. -

" 5. - David Gitch, - do. -

" 6. - Wm. Rodkins. - do. -

" 7. - John Gaaffe. - do. -

" 8. - B. H. Corey. - do. -

When Mrs Eliza McGwyne, and her husband Daniel McGwyne. pay fines of 5. each, and Costs, and relinquish the appeals, made by each of them, for Contraventions of the fishery act, recently committed by them, as already reported to you by me, I may recommend them in like manner for your consideration, but until this is done by them, I cannot place them on the same footing, with 8 deserving fishermen who have shown a stout disposition all through White fish Seining this year, to obey the fishery laws in all respects. . . .



And thereby merit the approval of the Fisheries department, and my regard. . . .

I hope you will be pleased to grant this application, as I have much pleasure in recommending it may be granted at once : . . .  
As the White fish run has terminated along Pt. Pelee for this season. . . .

The Herring seine to be fished as herein described, are in no instance to exceed 300 yards in length, and are to have no meshes therein under  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches extension measure. . .

With due respect,

I Have &c

John W. Kerr  
D. O.

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

Saturday, 31. July 1875. -

at Police Court. - produced letters from the department, for the edification of the Court in the case of Harcourt against G. H. Carey - for fishing an illegal seine in Lake Ontario - at Pt. Pelee, was blackguarded by C. A. Sadlier Esq. Barrister, as usual. - went out at 9. A. M. came in at 4. P. M. Miles 8. 44 Pt. 1.50. Meals &c

Monday, 2. Aug<sup>st</sup> 1875.

At Winona - got his job - gave Lohr Staud, worth  
30 each = 1.80<sup>4</sup> - sent four to Mr. S. P. Bauser, Ottawa. Ex-  
press Charge 1.20, went out at 5. a. m. came in at 3. p. m.  
after going to town - Miles 36. H & B. 3.00<sup>4</sup> -

Tuesday, 3. August 1875. -

In consequence of McNamee summoning up the  
persons - see back to Friday last, I proceeded to Sta-  
lane - and saw Mr. Angus Fraser - took down a memo-  
randum of what I observed at his steam saw mill,  
which is situated on the West Bank of 12 mile creek, on  
part of lot 10, & in the E. Conception of West Glamora,  
saw through the mill all over, above and below,

Hence to Carlyle, and Proqueston, examined Mr.  
W. Campbell, Freeman Green (Gullow Mill) James Keen-  
ill, and Charles Sealey & Sons saw mills - all situated  
on the West Bank of the 12 mile creek, in the  
township of East Glamora, saw all the Pro-  
queston at Proqueston - in East Glamora, thence  
home - went out at 6.30. a. m. came in at 5.  
p. m. miles about 42. H & B 4.00<sup>4</sup>. Toll 40<sup>4</sup>.  
dinner and Cat 50<sup>4</sup>. - The falls of 12 mile cr<sup>...</sup>  
is just above Campbell's mill. H & B 4.90

Wednesday 4. Aug<sup>st</sup> 1875. -

at B. B. gave out five licenses, thence to  
the City of Hamilton - Mr. M. Gwynne - paid her  
fine and Costs 9.40<sup>4</sup>. gave her back the ~~Atkins~~  
Serje - she having promised to pay same fine  
& Costs - and withdrew appeals, went out at 8.  
a. m. came in at 2. p. m. miles 26. H & B 3.00<sup>4</sup>

My dear Sir,

Yours received in due time, I will bear in mind your personal interest, and also that of your friend, when re-licensing the fisheries of the Niagara River, at Fort Erie. -

I have had an application from Mr. Nelson Forsyth, <sup>and Mr. Thomas</sup> to a similar effect. - Your man however, shall have first choice, because he has already applied to me himself personally, for one of the Fisheries at Fort Erie. - -

I was sorry to hear of Stutton's misfortune. - I will shortly come and see you. - - But as Stutton has fled the country, as you represent; the fisheries he held under license revert again back to the Fisheries department, Ottawa. - his right to them ceased; when he fled to another Country.

Yrs. fraternally.

John W. Kerr

J. G. -

Hamilton. Ont.

4. August 1875.

Capt. G. Schell.  
Customs Dept.  
Fort Erie.

Postpaid  
30.

My dear Sir,

Your application in behalf of a friend, for the fisheries in the Niagara River, at Fort Erie, recently held by Mr. George Stutton, under a license has been received by me. - In a redistribution and relicensing of the same, I will bear the person in remembrance, whom you have been pleased to recommend. - I will shortly come to Fort Erie, and will then please God, call and see you on this subject.

Yrs Respectfully,  
John W. Kerr

F. O.

4. August 1875.

Nelson Forsyth Esq  
Reeve of  
Fort Erie.

Mr. Joseph Labrie - Fisherman - Queenston.  
My dear Sir,

Your letter respecting Sterring fishing this next fall, - has been to hand, and in reply, I beg to tell you that I think you will be safe in preparing and putting in your Machine as I expect the close season for Sterrings, will be so fixed, as to meet your views. - I hope you are all well. Remember me kindly to my friends Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sheppard. -

Yrs Truly

John W. Kerr  
F. O.

4. Aug<sup>5</sup> 1875.

P.S. I will not allow John to fish his lower Machine next fall, so you apprise me in time, if you object to it. -

Yrs J. W. Kerr  
F. O.



Sir,

9. August 1875.

I have the honor to apply to you for a season license for the under named, to be in all respects the same as last year. -

- No. 1. Mr John Proudfoot, Whitley. -  
 " 2. Mr Wulbert & boy & boy, Shoal point.  
 " 3. - Thomas Mansfield, Frenchman's bay. -  
 " 4. - Francis Portwine, Yates Gulley. -  
 " 5. John Jussell, Ashbridges bay. -  
 " 6. My Anne Sherbourne P. Beach. -  
 " 7. Thomas Lorie, - do. -

All for fishing in Lake Ontario,  
 at the places mentioned. - -

And for Joseph Labrie and John Wadsworth, to fish in the Niagara River, at Queenston Heights. - - The license fees will be sent you after a little. , ,

With due respect,

I Have &c ,

John W. Kerr

J. O.

Hon. Minister

&c.

&c.

&c.

At Home,

Friday, 10. August 1875,  
 at P. Court, examined in respect to the Saw  
 Mills on the 1<sup>st</sup> Branch of 12 mile Creek, John  
 Barr, was employed by Sam. McNaie - a constable  
 who complained, and R. R. Waddell, Charles  
 A. Saddle, and D. B. Chisholm, Barristers were  
 employed by the Defendant, went out at  
 9. a. m. came in at 6. p. m. Miles 8.  
 148 P. 1.50, dimes 30. -

Sir,

9. August 1875.

I have the honor to send you a Bank cheque No 140, for the sum of Seventeen dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, for this current year as follows: —

1. Messrs Henry Stough, and James R. Burwell for license to fish at Port Stanley, which has been already received by me and delivered. — 8.00
  2. Isaac Durham & Coy - for Boat License to fish in Lake Ontario, near Grimsby, the same as last year. — 4.00.
  3. George Whyte, for license to fish in Lake Ontario, near Whitby, the same as last year. — 5.00
- Total. — \$ 17.00

With due Respect,

I Have &c

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Hon. Minister

Q. Q.

9. August 1875.

My dear Captain,

Since I wrote you in reply to an enquiry you made of me respecting the fisheries at Port Burwell, in Lake Erie, I have not heard any thing further about the matter. —

Will you be pleased to let me know who have been fishing at Pt Burwell this season.

Yrs. Paternally

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Captain McBride

Agent of Bagham,

Pt. Burwell.

9. Aug 1875,

January 1<sup>st</sup> 1876 - pay W. R. Gray of  
Dundas. 32. for a Cultivator. - -

John W. Kerr

2.0.

\* , Monday. 9 - August 1875,  
at Winona to get returns from Mr. Pat. Standa,  
fisherman of Salmon Trout, and Mr. fish gill nets  
fished by him. went out at 6. a. m. came in at  
11. a. m. Miles 34. H. & W. 3.00. This includes Journey  
to Hamilton, and back. - - - Express charges 1.25

\* Tuesday 10. August 1875,  
at Watertown, Progreaston, Cumminsville - thence  
down 12 mile Creek, to Mr. George Crawford's saw  
mill - found shingle stuff going into the creek, the  
mill being working at the time. John Schriver and  
Harvey Davis are running the mill at so much  
per 1000 ft. l. m. for lumber, and the shingles by  
the square. - thence on to Henry Timmermans  
mill - saw his man and noticed him also,  
and asked him to appraise Mr. Timmerman,  
thence on to Toronto Railway Station - to Mrs. S.  
McCroneys Ho. Mill at Toronto, except Mr. Crawford's  
mill - all right, thence on to Port Nelson -  
Wellington Square, B. Beach, and Home - mill  
about 50. H. & W. 4. dinner and horse feed 50. - at  
Crawford's mill - and Lowville there is no ap-  
pearance of saw dust in the Creek which is  
very shallow. - scarcely any water in the  
Creek except in the mill ponds, - until I ar-  
rived at Toronto. - I noticed John Schriver to  
keep out saw dust and shingle stuff, and  
warned him to tell his employer - to keep  
out the stuff at once, at the same time I  
read the fishing act to him on the subject.  
called for return at Mr. W. J. Federick.

\* Wednesday 11, Aug<sup>5</sup> 1875.  
 at Grimsby - to get returns from John Stand,  
 and to enquire about the fishing there went out  
 at 5.30. a.m. came in at 12.30. p.m. - miles  
 about 32. ~~At W<sup>g</sup>~~ <sup>#</sup> 3.00. Breakfast 25. -  
 postage stamps 25.

My dear Treble,

Yours of the 9<sup>th</sup> instant, has  
 been duly received: Your friend Mr. Elve may  
 prepare his nets &c. but at the same time  
 charge him to do so quietly. -

Your little piece will still remain  
 to you O.K., all right,

Y<sup>rs</sup> Gratefully,

Charles Treble Esq<sup>r</sup>  
 5, Old Lane

John Stand  
 G.O.

13. August 1875.

Wednesday 11, August 1875. -  
 at Grimsby - to get ~~returns~~ <sup>returns</sup> from John Stand  
 went out at 5.30. a.m. came in at 12.30. p.m. -  
 miles 32. ~~At W<sup>g</sup>~~ <sup>#</sup> 3. Breakfast 25. - -

\* Thursday 12, August 1875.  
 at B. B. delivered to Jack Treble his pipe  
 gill, Duncan McGillivray his - Geo. Hall his - also  
 Dolla & Nets of his - went out at 2.30 p.m. came  
 in at 7. p.m. miles 24. ~~At W<sup>g</sup>~~ <sup>#</sup> 2.50 -

\* Monday, 16, August 1875.  
 at Wymona to get wh. fish &c. went  
 out at 5. a.m. came in at 12. Noon -  
 miles 36. then to ~~Amington~~ <sup>Amington</sup> ~~supra~~  
 charges to O. H. 1.25 - & B. B. 1.00  
 H. B. 3.0



\* Saturday 21, Aug<sup>r</sup> 1875.  
 To see what Magistrate decision in the Saw Mill  
 Cases, went out at 9. a.m. came in at 12.30.  
 Miles 8. Stk W<sup>y</sup> 1.50

\* Tuesday 24, Aug<sup>6</sup> 1875. -  
 at B. Bach gave back Alex Rolfe, remainder of  
 his pike gill nets, went out at 8. am came in  
 at 2.30 p.m. Miles 26. Stk W<sup>y</sup> 2.50.

\* Wednesday 25, Aug<sup>r</sup> 1875. -  
 at Minna - back to St Milton and home -  
 fish to Ottawa, went out at 5. a.m. came  
 in at 2.30 p.m. Miles 36. Stk W<sup>y</sup> 3.00  
 Express Charge 1.15

Sir,

18. Aug<sup>6</sup> 1875.

I have the honor to receive from you, Constable Sam<sup>l</sup> McChes letter of 11<sup>th</sup> instant, with your instructions to me to report thereon.

In reply I beg respectfully to report that it is true, that John Green, William Campbell, James Green and John Baker but as John Green, has since sold out, only two of the former persons owners of the mills now referred to not your as named in McChes letter were fined \$30. each, and costs, for allowing some drift to drift into 12 mile creek, a stream frequented by speckled trout. John Baker never had a mill on 12 mile creek. - please refer to my report of 19. May 1873. -

You were pleased refer me some decision in which in 1868. Cahille the Police, Magistrate at the time fully concurred to allow the fines to remain in abeyance. McChes was the witness, on the occasion; I was myself, the nominal complainant. - The decision was arrived at in open court, just as the Magistrate's decision is now for a purpose deferred until the 21<sup>st</sup> of this month, in the present cases. - - -

It is known to the public and patent to McChes himself that, Mr. Sam<sup>l</sup> Wilnot, placed about 2,500, Salmon fry, in the 12 mile creek, at Bronte, on the 12, of June 1874. This is a distance of about 16, miles, by the shortest direct land route from Mr. John Green's saw mill, now complained of, as Charles Seely & Co's, but by the route of the stream 12 mile creek, I should say, about 30 miles. - -

McChes in this matter of Salmon fry, is just 22,500 in excess of what it really was. -

As regards my giving positive instruction to Mr. Samuel McChes, I most positively deny his assertion. but knowing that he and Joseph Cate were in the habit of going into this part of the country for to fish for speckled trout, I accidentally said to them in conversation, let me know the date

of the same date. &c. - hence the cause of the  
just prosecution in May 1873. - -

With reference to the assertion put forth in  
sentence 6. - I remember McLeish telling me last  
April or May, after the Whiteley public notice was  
posted, that he and Joe Gates were going to bar-  
gain for the job for speaking out, but heard no-  
thing more, nor about the cases now referred to  
by McLeish, until they were in court, this was on  
Thursday the 29. of July, the day before the trial,  
why he acted so, I am at a loss to conceive!  
On the morning of the Police Court, 30 of July, McLeish  
at my request, for the first time furnished me  
with the following names; and with none other  
then, nor at any other time since nor before. vizt  
James Brown, Thomas Brown, Charles Selby, Angus  
Thomson & Wm Campbell, "John Knight and Wm  
Spence, he never gave me?" Complained as  
by him; I was told by by Mr Joseph Gates since  
the trial, it was at his suggestion McLeish was in-  
duced to tell me at all about these cases until  
after disposed of, by Mr Cahill, which appears  
strange, seeing as Mr McLeish now states in his letter to  
you, he is acting under my instructions. - - -

With reference to sentence 7. - It is a slander,  
and untruthful all through the piece! - I deny!  
that I afforded the counsel for the defendants such  
aid and assistance, as McLeish's agents I did, I  
attach statements from the gentlemen referred to,  
to satisfy you, on the head. - - -

When the cases were called on the 30<sup>th</sup> ultimo,  
Messrs L. A. Lullie, J. B. Chisholm and R. R. Waddell,  
Barristers &c. appeared in court before my arrival,  
and after they before the cases commenced charged McLeish  
the complainant, and he saw the Constable who  
was the witness with the black mincey

McNair himself told me so, when giving me the name of the defendants, <sup>he had charged</sup> in the small room off the Court. - He also told me then, he intended to employ E. A. Sadlier & Co. Barristers to prosecute the cases for him. Only he did not, had so attacked him. -

I then myself advised McNair to employ Mr John Barr, as counsel, which he did; however what cause of complaint has he against me, if he only tells the truth. - - -

When the cases were called, I was present, on the 30 July last, the counsel for the defendants raised a legal objection for their clients, the Magistrate proposed to adjourn the cases but counsel for defence wanted the cases to go on, and be disposed of, and were willing to waive all irregularities, Mr John Barr, the counsel for Complainant would not agree to it, the Magistrate adjourned them to the 6<sup>th</sup> of Aug<sup>st</sup> following, so as to secure to the Complainant and his son, the Constable who served the summonses, the costs - Such at least was the report! -

After the adjournment, McNair and I, talked over the matter, it was proposed that he and I would go on the following Tuesday, "as the 3. of June last, was so far back," we might examine the saw mill personally, as Mr McNair had not done this, since May 1873. - and that we might see what the Mill Owners done to keep out the dust, &c. - McNair got out the amended summonses, he now refers to, on the 30. of July, and he could have served all the summonses on the defendants the Mill Owners in Hamilton, on that day before they left for home 18 miles "some of them" from here, if he was so disposed, instead of sending out his son the next day - Had he served the defendant in Hamilton, he nor his son would not be allowed mileage, which was supposed to be the object in view. - - -



on evening the 2<sup>d</sup> of August, McLeair's son, a Constable called on me to say; that his father would not go with me on the next day, to inspect the Saw Mills.

On Tuesday morning however, as agreed upon, I called for McLeair, early, he got out of bed, but positively refused to accompany me - "Although he afterwards on the same day went out, and served witnesses to appear in the adj<sup>d</sup> Cases" - stating to me, at the same time, he was not going to hold any interviews with the Saw Mill Owners - being advised to this effect. - That the cases would not end at the adjourned trial, as he would afterwards take up the witnesses, whom he understood would not appear, owing to the non payment by him of witness fees, and would employ Thomas Robertson Esq<sup>r</sup> & C. Barrister to prosecute them, but he has never found any fault with me till now. . . .

I think the cases myself should have been tried where the offences were committed, and this was my impression in May 1873, but I was then over ruled by the Chief, -

The police Magistrate to whom I talked on 31<sup>st</sup> July last, stated to me that he approved of my going out and visiting the Saw Mills with Mr. <sup>told him so</sup> that Mr. <sup>told him so</sup> statements Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, showing my inspection of each Saw Mill - produced in Court by me, and examined by me, will show you that I appeared for the prosecution. . . .

I heard that a petition to you was got up by the Mill Owners, but I neither advised nor projected it, nor have I seen it. - These statements are attached. . . .

In reply to clause 10. - The quotation is from the White - the Commissioner's public notice dated 5 of April 1875. and appears to be what the

Sam<sup>l</sup> McNeil, County Constable for Wentworth "relied upon" when he instituted these present proceedings.

This notice, however, you will please observe only, refers as it appears to the close season of the several fishes mentioned therein, about the observance of which grave doubts exist, I have learned so far as McNeil is concerned. . . .

I may here say, that Mr Wm. Morden who saws for Messrs Charles Sealey & Co. told me on Tuesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of August at their mill that young McNeil, the Constable said to him they would make a good pile of money out of the cases this time; had not made much last trial, which is <sup>to protect the</sup> proof, that money and not fish is the object he and his father had in view, when they instituted these proceedings. —

Far be it from me, to place Mr McN, in a humiliating position, he must be allowed to lose prison etc, who heretofore done this, as I assisted him all I could in these prosecutions. . . .

I may add, that for my own part I can assure you I have done nothing beyond what I have here without any hesitation stated and explained to you, and I am somewhat surprised at McNeil's letter, so entirely uncalled for, in my opinion - anticipating as he does, what perhaps may not happen and attempting to create a prejudice before hand, ~~endeavouring~~ <sup>endeavour</sup> to place himself in your favour by misstatements of facts. —

In conclusion, I may here tell you, McNeil, has never yet said one word to me, on the subject of his pretended grievances, and his letter to you, is the first and only intimation I have ever had on the subject; In the production of his letter, he has it appears drawn on his imagination. —

Since these trials have taken place I have examined the 12 mile creek, and saw mill

between Carlisle, and Shonto, at various points  
in the interest of the Fishing department. -

With due respect, -

Hon. Minster,

W. H. C. C.

Atlanta,

I have &c,

John W. Kern,

Shonto,

Friday, 27. August 1875. - -

At P<sup>r</sup> Credit to make enquiry about the fishing  
there, and up the River, and in the Lake - saw  
Jim Wiley - and Fred<sup>r</sup> Shaver, - who informed me,  
a person was fishing gill nets in front of P<sup>r</sup> Credit -  
saw the boat also the buoys once or twice - did not  
see the boat for a week - went out at 8. A.M.  
came in at 4.30. P.M. - Miles 72. Pay fare 1.60<sup>4</sup>,  
dinner 25<sup>4</sup>. 10<sup>4</sup>.

John Hand. Postage 10<sup>4</sup>.



Sir,

21. August 1875,

I have the honor to receive the petition of Messrs Greenman, James Kewal, Charles Seely, John Knight, William Spence, and William Campbell - Mill Proprietors of four 5.5 miles on the upper part of the south branch of the 12 mile Creek, situated in the township of East Lombard, and north Riding of Westmorland. - With your instructions to me to report thereon and return the petition with my report. . . .

In reply to the first clause therein, I beg most respectfully to report to you, that I am satisfied - that in every particular this clause is correct.

In reply to clause No. 2, I beg to report that this clause is, as I believe correct, for I have made an inquiry which warrant me in stating so. . . .

In reply to clause 3, - I beg to report, that Mr William Campbell's saw mill, is constructed so across the creek, from bank to bank, that it would be an expensive job to him, if compelled strictly to comply with the Fisheries Act, as respects saw dust, &c. . . .

Mr James Kewal, and Greenman Green's mills, are each constructed over the creek, all these three mills are about 400 yards of each other. . . . The saw mill of Messrs Charles Seely, John Knight, and Wm Spence, "the most extensive mill of all" is about half a mile lower down the creek from the other, and is situated in a similar position to that of Mr Campbell's mill, and the expenses to keep out the saw dust, would be more expensive still, - than Mr Campbell, these proprietors do not live on the premises, while the three just named mill owners do. . . .

In reply to clause No. 4, I have to report that this is all correct; The evidence of Mr Joseph Gate went to prove that he caught a speckled trout, and a chub on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June last, and for . . .



date only summonses were taken out: Copy herewith. . . .

In reply to clause No. 5. - I have to report that my belief is, that the main channel of 12 mile Creek, is fished out, for years past, and with the exception of suckers and mullets that ascend this stream in spring, each year as far up as Mr Henry Zimmermans - lower mill dam, at Zimmermans Village; - say about four miles from the mouth of this creek, where it enters Lake Ontario at Pointe there is no fish, if I may except what may be still left in the creek below the Railway bridge, of the Salmon fry - put there on the 12 June 1874, by Mr Sam Wilbur, there being no appearance of saw dust in this locality for a long time past, nor for about 4 miles above. . . .

Mr Whites Mill having ceased sawing four years ago, when I then addressed you on the subject. -

The petitioners say; that the party prosecuting as aforesaid, is acting merely with a pecuniary self interest, and not for any desire to protect the interest of the public; I quote the excuse given by the complainant himself to you for not accompanying me to inspect the mills on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of Aug<sup>t</sup>.

"That between the adjournment and hearing of these cases your Oversee requested me to accompany him, to said Mills, and I consented, but afterwards refused, as I heard it was the intention of the Oversee to adjudicate on said cases himself and take them out of the hands of the Police Magistrate, who had issued the summonses, and inflict a merely nominal fine on them?" . . .

Mr W<sup>m</sup> Morden - in his statement to me on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of Aug<sup>t</sup> which is presented to you in my report of 18. instant, also points in this same direction. . . .

My statements Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, will have shown you already, why it was I visited the mills and requested ~~Mr. Hall~~ to accompany me there . . . .

In reply to clause <sup>No</sup> 6, I beg to report that I fully concur in <sup>what</sup> the petitioners state; It is true, I believe in all particulars, except in ~~Mr.~~ Campbell's case, who would require longer time . . . I have no hesitation in bringing this clause of the petition under your favorable consideration . . . .

And I may here state for your information that this not a navigable creek . . The water in it, after the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, in each year, except to do a little running in the mornings is so low, scarcely ~~running~~, that I attribute the scarcity of fish more to the low water, the mill dams, or as much to these jointly, as I do to saw dust, beside this creek was completely fished out like all similar creeks, before the present fishing act, came into operation . . . And it is coming to me to hear that the day is not far distant, I hope when I will be able to report to you, that these saw mills and mill dams are of past, the 12 mile creek, is restocked with choice fish again . . . .

Had the complainant reported to me in the first place instead of rushing into court before consulting with me; and I had gone out and inspected these saw mills, and this upper part of the south branch and the main branch of 12 mile Creek, as I have done since these trials commenced from Strabane, to Ontario, I believe my report would be <sup>just</sup> the same as it is now . . . .

~~Mr.~~ Angus Fraser, having up his saw dust, the complainant made a mistake in taking any out a summons for him, - see my statement No. 1. . . .

Mr James Kewal, was sawing through the

complaint was made, refer to my statement p. 2.

Mr. Freeman Green, was not serving the day, the complaint was laid, please refer to my statement p. 3.

Mr. William Campbell, was serving the day, the complaint was made, please refer to my statement p. 4.

Mr. Charles Seely & boy, - employ Mr. Wm. Mordau who lives on the premises to run their mill, he was working <sup>there</sup> on the 8 of June last, Mr. Seely however did not complain of Mordau at all. - please refer to my statement p. 5.

A copy of the summonses served on all the defendants please find herewith.

My opinion is as you will please observe recommended to you and prayed to have that portion of sub section 2, of section 14, of the fishing Act, so far as saw dust, &c. from these mills are concerned, exempt from the provision of the Act. - By the Reeve and deputy Reeve of the township, with 29, respectable inhabitants; I know they could get the entire township if time permitted.

On the 6. of Aug<sup>th</sup> when all the evidence in these cases was heard, the Magistrate adjourned his decision so as to give the defendants the opportunity of petitioning you, which they have done. - On my receiving the petition, from you to report upon, I apprised the Police Magistrate; and I now without fear, favour or affection give it as my opinion from the present position of 12 mile creek, that the interests of the public at large, will be best served by granting the prayer of the petition.

This was the day to which the adjournment



was made, when counsel on both sides again appeared before the Magistrate - the cases were further adjourned, until the 1<sup>st</sup> of September next, so as to give him in possession by that time of the Hon. The Minister's decision and reply to the petition.

All of which is respectfully submitted and recommended for your consideration, and final decision.

Hon. Minister,

Y. Y. Y.

Ottawa.

I have &c.

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Port Burwell, Aug<sup>5</sup> 1875.

J. W. Kerr Esq.

Overseer of Fisheries.

Hamilton.

Dear Sir,

In answer to

Yours is the party that asked about a license then deposited in my hands of \$5 five dollars, the price you named for his license and I wrote Whitcher for blanks licenses this was previous to my getting your letter. - I suppose you noticed that I am appointed for the County of Elgin - as Overseer of Fisheries -

Y<sup>rs</sup> Respectfully,

Alex<sup>r</sup> McBride

Overseer of Fisheries for Co. of Elgin.

"Confidential"

Memorandum for Mr. Bannet  
This letter from Captain <sup>Alex</sup> McBride, Port Burwell, is the first intimation I had, that the fisheries at Port Stanley, Bruce, Burwell, and Verina, are no longer under my superintendence. - Is this so? -

Except, Port Burwell, last year and this, I sent in license fees, from each of the others. - Has Sheriff Munro Mr Thomas - done this, because I declined to recommend Port Bruce fisheries to be given to him. - up to this, all the fishing taken from me, paid well, viz Long & S. Point, John these &c. &c. H. Hamilton.  
28. Aug. 1875.

John W. Kerr J. W.



Sir,

28. August 1875.

In reply to your Circular, dated Ottawa, 19, of July 1875, asking me "to state as soon as possible the exact sizes of the meshes of gill nets and seines, now in use in your division; both those used for Salmon Trout, and those used for White fish."

I have the honor to report, that the seine used for catching White fish, are all regulation size - the centres of each seine being 4" wide extension measure; the balance of the seines and the seines being still larger. - - -

The Salmon Trout gill nets, vary from 6, to 7, and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches, extension measure. - - -

The White fish gill nets are 5" wide mesh, extension measure, and some  $5\frac{1}{2}$ " extension measure mesh. -

The larger the size of gill net mesh is, the larger will be the majority of the fish caught and higher the prices.

Our fishermen who fish in American waters annually at Niagara, fish  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " wide mesh, extension measure; which I have been prevailing upon them to abandon for over 5" wide, and to some effect. -

With due respect,

Hon. Ministers,  
H. H. H.,  
Ottawa,

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr  
J. W.

"Confidential"

22. August 1875.

Sir, I have the honor to attach herewith a note, I received from Messrs. Bowman and Moore, Stevedores Merchants of this City, agents for sale of an explosive combustible called Dynamite, communicating to me their suspicions, - that this article is being bought and used by young people (boys) for the destruction of fish in the waters of B. Bay. - - -

I may mention for your information, that by igniting the fuse attached and placed within the Cartridge of Dynamite, and dropping the same into the water; when it explodes under water with powerful effect, stunning the fish, so that they instantly float on the surface of the water, and while labouring under the effects of the shock, can be easily caught by hand and captured. - - -

I have been making private enquiry - and I believe Messrs. Bowman and Moore's suspicions are well founded. - But before taking any action in the matter, I believe it my duty to report and ask for your instructions, as this is a New Warfare for the destruction of our fishes. -

With due respect,

Hon. Ministers,  
H. H. H.

Ottawa,

I Have &c

John W. Kerr  
D. A.

To.  
 — Kerr Esq<sup>r</sup> —

Hamilton, Aug 5 17. 1875.

Sir, We have reason to believe that the explosive called "Dynamite" is being used somewhat considerably in B. bay for the capture of fish. — We presume that you know that it is chiefly destructive of the smaller fry. —

We are agents for the sale of this article, but of course can not contrall its use. — We know nothing positively but from young people buying it on Saturdays, we fancy it is used there and on Sundays for the above murderous work verbatim so.

Y<sup>rs</sup> Very Respectfully. —

Bowman & Moore,

Sir,

28. August 1875.

I have the honor to report for your information — that if you approve of my so doing; I believe I will be able to procure some choice specimens of fish, for exhibition at the next Provincial show fair, to be held at Ottawa, between the 20. and 24 of September next. — please reply at once.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister  
 H. H. H.

Ottawa.

With due Respect,

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
 J. O.

Mailed letter to Jas. J. Wilcox, this  
 3<sup>rd</sup> of September 1875. — J. W. Kerr  
 J. O. —

Postages 3¢

Sent copy of the Whitchey Notice of 5 April 1875.  
do

- 1, Ab<sup>th</sup> H. Noble, Beausville, 2, Rich Gilbert, Jordan,
- 3 Thomas Elliott, Niagara. - 4, W<sup>m</sup> Ingledew, Toronto.
- 5, P. Gray, Toronto Island. - 6, Gen. Marsh, Leslie. -
- 7, John Morley, Leslie. - 8, Francis Portwine, Scarboro.
- 9, Joseph Moon, Port Union. - 10, - Hos. Mansfield - J. Bay -
- John Staud, - Postage 10<sup>¢</sup> Pat. Staud. -
- Joseph Gabriel. - do 2<sup>¢</sup>. Harry Sheppard

Monday, 30, August 1875. -

At Winona, - and B. Beach - found all regular,  
gave strict orders about the size of White fish,  
and Salmon Trout gill nets, went out at 5 a.m.,  
came in at 12, Moon - Miles 32. 844 Bay. 3, - Break-  
fast 25<sup>¢</sup>. -

Wednesday - 1, September 1875.

At Toronto Island. - to see the fishermen  
there, saw A. Ward, his son William and Pat<sup>rs</sup>,  
Gray - went out at 8 a.m. came in at 10 p.m.  
Miles 48. 844 B. Bay and Boat 3.30, dinner & tea  
Bed 75<sup>¢</sup>. - Pat. Gray's men caught a Salmon 10<sup>lb</sup>,  
weight last June, in a White fish seine, at the gap. -

Thursday 2 Sep: 1875.

At Toronto Island - and home - went out at 6.30  
a.m. came in at 11 a.m. Miles 48. - Bay, Boat,  
Breakfast, # 2.05<sup>¢</sup> made enquiry about a boat  
fishing at Credit - 4 miles out. -



Sir,

2. September 1875.

I have the honor to send you the last action of James Cahill Esq. J. P. Police Magistrate Hamilton - taken by him against six of the seven Pickill owners of the south branch of 12. mile Creek. -

I was in Toronto, when the Magistrate gave his decision - not waiting the pleasure of the Hon. The Minister to either the petition of the defendants, or the letter of appeal the in-  
 person - written and got up in the said Magistrate's private office - Hamilton. -

With due respect,

Hon. Minister  
 & & &

I Have &amp;c,

Johill Esq.  
 J. P.

Saturday. 4. Sep. 1875. -

On B. Bch. gave Thomas Joyce, and Mrs Ann Sherbenelle. - made some enquiries - thence by the Plains and Heights - went out at 1.30 p.m. came in at 7. p.m. - miles 30. \$4.40 <sup>2</sup> 3.00. Toll 8. -

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> of September 1875.

At Suspension Bridge, Buffalo, and Fort Erie. -  
 Thence to Niagara, back to S. Bridge and home, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 1.30. a.m. -  
 miles 182, Rif fare. &c. <sup>#</sup> 5.95, \$4.40 <sup>#</sup> 1.50, - went to look after the fisheries, saw W. Hall, purchased a field glass from him for \$20. the best I ever saw - - -  
 Made enquiries about the fisheries at Fort Erie and George Shotton. - also Everitt. - and at the town of Niagara, - Walked home from  
 Town. - - -

Orangeville  
 John B. Kerr Esq,  
 Irish Inspector,  
 Sep: 4, 1875.

Sir, What steps will I have  
 to take to stop Mr Thomas Jell, Mill Owner of this  
 place of running his saw dust down the river  
 Credit, an answer by return of post will oblige

Yours truly

John Wilkins

Constable

Orangeville.

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 4. instant, received. -

I have sent the same to Ottawa - and I recom-  
 mended that I be instructed to take immediate  
 proceedings against the person complained of, in  
 the mean time; Will you be pleased to write  
 Mr Jell, that you have complained of him to  
 me, and that he must instantly take measures  
 to keep out the saw dust, from the Creek, or be  
 henceforth fined, every time he repeats the of-  
 fence. -

Yrs truly. -

John Wilkins

J. O.

Hamilton, Onto,

9. Sep: 1875.

Postage 24 & Telegraphy 52.

Sir,

9. Sep: 1875.

I have the honor to submit for your consideration a letter of Complaint against Mr Thomas Jell, of Orangerville - for permitting saw dust from his Mill, to enter one of the north branches of the river Credit. ....

I want to go up there and get some speckled Trout, and while doing this, I could visit the saw Mills, and enforce the Law. ....

The Trout I require for small spring meals, fished out in years gone by, that I require and desire to re-stock again. ....

I have the necessary paid in my pass<sup>s</sup> for transporting live fish. -

With due respect,

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr

D.O.

Hon: Minister  
to, to, to,  
Ottawa,

\* Monday 13. September 1875. -

At Winona, and Grimsby, to enquire into the fishing carried on there. John Stand - Caught <sup>4</sup> 311. <sup>4</sup> 75. of White fish in 9 weeks, selling them at the average of 25¢ a piece - went out at 6. a.m. Came in at 2. p.m. Miles 34. <sup>4</sup> 144 W<sup>4</sup> <sup>4</sup> 3.00. dinner <sup>4</sup> 25.

Wrote Captain Charles Webb, Det  
" John Kerith, Mr P. Gray, Det  
" and Thomas Stock, -

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 9<sup>th</sup> instant, just received, I have been at Fort Erie, this week, but I have not licensed nor leased the fisheries there to any person. - Your informant has misled you!.

If every thing is, as you say; please send me the licenses issued by the Dept. through me to Geo. Hutton - to fish in the Niagara River, at Fort Erie, "but who has since become a delinquent from Justice," and I will submit the same to the Hon. Minister for consideration in behalf of Mr Poulin. - This is all I can do in the premises, - for until the Minister empowers Poulin to fish, he cannot do so, under the power imparted to Hutton alone, who has absconded from Canada. - -

Chester A. Harris, after he x'd the River, sold his nets, &c, to Hutton, but this did not entitle him Hutton to the fisheries, Harris had licensed, without the sanction of the Dept. - Ottawa. -

Beyond the fisheries themselves, I am not permitted to interfere. - I have no objection to ask the Dept. to allow the licenses to be fished out to the 31<sup>st</sup> of December next.

Nelson Forsyth Esq  
Fort Erie,

Yours truly,  
John W. Kerr

D.O. 11. Sep. 1874



Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> of September 1875.

At Grimsby, and Wrentham, got 6. white fish to send to Ottawa, got a big netting, thence to Hamilton, sent same by Express - charges  $\$1.35$  - 844 lbs  $\frac{3}{4}$  3.00. Breakfast 25. Horse feed 25, tolls 14. - found all things right - returned home by B. O. Ch. - went out at 5. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. Miles 44.

Sir,

14. Sep: 1875.

I have the honor to report for your information, that I took a run down to Grimsby, on yesterday to ascertain how experiments being carried on there by John Stand, a gill net fisherman, had been progressing. - I found that Mr. Stand had been fishing during the past nine weeks, about 1,500 yards of 5.5 in. and 6" mesh mesh Salmon Trout, and Wh. fish gill nets; and had caught 1,247 White fish, which average price of 25<sup>¢</sup> each, he received, amounted to \$311.75.

And Pat: Stand who fishes there, has been equally successful. - -

Now the impression these simple experiments have made upon my mind is, that all White fish gill nets used for deep water fishing should be of the sizes herein described, and that all fishing for White fish should after this year be finally dispensed with. - - -

I have carefully watched fishing for Wh. fish attentively, and very closely for years back, and I have no hesitation in saying now! that it matters not how careful and legal such fishing is carried on; - It is a most injurious and destructive way of catching Wh. fish. - - -

Legal seines are no preventative against catching small White fish. - - - My experience being that the Wh. fish from its gentle or timid nature hardly ever makes an effort

to escape, no matter how large the meshes of the series are. -

White fish gill nets never catch the young, nor small wh. fish: - Such being my experience after close observation and attention, particularly during the last season and this; I have not the slightest hesitation in giving my candid opinion, and of now submitting for your information and adoption a matter that must if at once established by the department Ottawa, add size to the fish caught, increase their numbers, and market value, besides making the white fish fisheries more healthy in the future, and as a consequence ultimately improve the condition of all the sober, industrious fishermen. -

With due respect,

Yours sincerely,  
H. C. H. C.  
Ottawa,

I have the

hon. Secy.  
H. C.

\* Tuesday 21, September 1875, \$22<sup>00</sup>/<sub>3</sub>

At Supt. Br. and Queenston - saw Joe Gabriel, gave him his license, - went to Harry Sheppard's - who has been unsuccessful in fishing last spring. - went out at 8 a.m., came in at 2 a.m. 22<sup>00</sup>/<sub>3</sub> September, by fare 2.90, dinner and tea 75, \$4.65, \$2.00, Mile 1.2.

\* Thursday, 23, Sep. 1875, \$5.65<sup>00</sup>/<sub>3</sub>

At Winona - thence to Alred Carpenter and up the Lake shore to B. Beh. and Lake Ontario, to J. H. Corey - fare 3.00, dinner 40 - Mile 36.

"Immediate."

My dear Sir,

I want to procure some speckled trout for some of the depleted creeks of the County of Wentworth; I would like to hear what you can do for me in the matter, and I will come up at once, and see you on this and other matters; With kind regards to you, and yours, believe me. —

To, Wellington Hall Esq  
 Erin Village —  
 and Geo. A. Lacey Esq  
 Hornedale  
 Hillsburgh P. Office

Yrs Sincerely,  
 John W. Kerr  
 J. W.

Hamilton, Ont.  
 24. Sep: 1875. —

Postages <sup>4</sup> 12

Telegrams <sup>4</sup> 1.52

Monday. 27. September 1875. —

At Winona and Grimsby - for fish and peaches for Ottawa, and made enquiries about fishing and fishermen - went out 5. a. m. came home by the Beach - thence to Supers Office. - Hamilton and back at 4.30. p. m. - miles 40. <sup>#</sup> 3.00 - Supers charges <sup>#</sup> 3.75. breakfast and tolls <sup>+</sup> 40.

Sir,

22, September 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith the license issued by the department to Mr George Stutton, a fisherman - late of Fort Erie, for to fish in the Niagara River <sup>there</sup> during this season; within certain limits described in the said license and for which Stutton paid fifty dollars. . . .

Mr Stutton since got into pecuniary difficulties, and received money it appears from Mr John Poulin - a Baker in Fort Erie, in lieu of which Stutton gave his boats, and seines, and the license herewith to Poulin for to fish out the unexpired term up to the 31<sup>st</sup> of December next, and thereby if possible get back the money he so advanced. . . .

I have no objection to see this done and I therefore recommend that the department will be pleased to transfer the license herewith to Mr John Poulin for the balance of this current year. . . .

The letter of Mr Nelson Forsyth Reeve of Fort Erie, with whom I have been in communication on the subject is submitted herewith for your information. - An early reply will oblige;

Hon. Minister,

H. H. H.

Ottawa,

I have the honor

John W. Kerr

J. W.



Sir

6. October 1875.

I have the honor to report for your information, that this day Mr John Davis, Fish dealer here, showed me a letter he had just received from Messrs. Andrew and Dawson Post, of Collingwood - fishermen there; - That the H. & Dept. of Ottawa, were going to alter the close season for Salmon Trout, and Lake Trout, from its present fixed period, 15. of October, to 1<sup>st</sup> of December.

Will you be pleased to inform me at once - if it is your intention to change the above dates so that I may apprise the fishermen of my division or otherwise. -

Yours truly,  
Wm. H. H. H.

Hon. Minister  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa

at Home &c

John W. H. H.

H. H.

~~John W. H. H.~~

Postage 25.

Henry Griffith - about fish way in ft dam - 7<sup>6</sup>/<sub>3</sub>

Thursday 7<sup>6</sup>/<sub>3</sub> October 1875.

"For Province of Ontario,

close season for white fish - Salmon Trout, and Lake Trout, is fixed by Regulations from 12. of November, to 1<sup>st</sup> of December, both days inclusive: and there is no close season for Herrings. -

Hamilton, Onto.,

John W. Allen

9. October 1875. -

H. Dufferin.

Sent Mr Thomas Elliott, Niagara, for self, and the other fishermen. -

Sent Harry Sheppard, Queenston, for self, and other fishermen. -

Sent Richard Gilbert, London,

" William Douglass, Bronte,

" John Morley, Leslie. - for self and Genl. Marsh. -

" Joseph Moon - Pt Union. -

" John Thomas Mansfield - Frenchmans bay - for self, Marks, Albert and Wright. -

" Patrick Stand, Weymouth. -

" John Stand, Glimsby. -

" G. Portwine, Scarborough. -

" John Poulin, Fort Erie

" John Everett - do,

" Capt. Charles Heble - do,

Isaac Michener Low Banks  
Henry Ross - Pt Maitland

Postage 20 and 15 cents

Sir,

11. October 1875. -

I have the honor to send you herewith, my diary, and incidentals for the quarter ending the 30<sup>th</sup> of September last. -

The diary, and account. -		\$ 117.23.
Vouchers No: 1. -	John W. Kerr, Express Charges.	12.65.
" " 2. -	James M. Williams & boy - Impails.	9.00.
" " 3. -	John W. Kerr, - Field glass.	20.00.
" " 4. -	John W. Kerr, - Postages.	1.59.
" " 5. -	John W. Kerr, - Telegrams.	1.52.
" " 6. -	John W. Kerr, - Office Rent.	5.00.
" " 7. -	John W. Kerr, - Stationery.	3.50.
" " 8. -	John W. Kerr, - Boatman	4.00.
" " 9. -	Mackelau & boy. - Solicitor	12.00.
Total \$		186.49

All of which is respectfully submitted. -

I have &c.

Hon: Minister,  
 &c. &c. &c. (   
 Ottawa.

John W. Kerr,  
 J. W.

Friday 8. October 1875.

At Progreton, - inspected the saw mill there, found them as described in my Report of this day, went out at 9. A. M. came in at 5.30. P. M. - Miles 36. H & B: 3.50, Tolls 20.

Sir,

15. October 1875.

I have the honor to report for your information, that I have just returned home after visiting Duffin's Creek. - I find two Salmon have already made their appearance there. - The Railway bridge there, is now being removed. The brick abutments are being pulled down; - Two stone abutments instead are about completed. - The old bridge has been pulled down, a temporary wooden bridge erected in its place. - A platform has also been constructed between the two stone <sup>abutments</sup> on which a new Iron Bridge will be in course of construction next week. -

Between 30, and 40. men from Buffalo, are expected at Duffin's Creek to erect this new Iron Bar; over the Creek there. - It will be necessary for the protection of the Salmon there this fall to employ a couple of additional men by day, to guard these fish. - In addition with the two night men. - Threats have been made and secretly communicated to Mr. Moses Smith - the efficient friend and guardian of this Creek. -

I beg most respectfully to recommend that you will be pleased to allow me to employ the necessary additional hands to protect the Salmon there this fall. -

With due respect,

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
T.O.

Hon: Minister,  
H. H. V.  
Ottawa.



Sir,

8. October 1875.

I have the honor to report for your information, that I proceeded this day to Progreton, situated in the township of East Glamorgan, and inspected the saw and shingle mills, of Messrs James Kewale, Freeman Green, and Wm. Campbell, recently fined 50. each, and costs, for permitting saw dust to enter the waters of the 12 mile Creek; in contravention of the Fisheries Act. . . .

I found that Mr Kewale's mill, has been so fixed under my orders, since the fine was imposed that not a particle of saw dust can now escape into the water of the Creek any more. . . .

Mr Freeman Green has altogether given up sawing timber. . . .

Mr William Campbell, has torn down the flooring of his mills, and is framing at present, so as to raise it, thus! enabling him to put in an under floor, from whence he intends to have it wheeled out and burned more effectually than it was heretofore. These improvements to his mills are being done at great expense. . . .

The Messrs Charles Sealey & Co - do not intend sawing any next year; Mr Knight having withdrawn from the partnership. - Their mill will be also repaired so as to keep out the saw dust, before commencing to saw again, to my satisfaction. . . .

My report of 18. of August, on Constable McNeil's letter to you, and my further report dated 22. of August last, on the petition of these defendants, besides mine of 2. September last, will I hope have given you, sufficient reason, for allowing these exorbitant fines, to remain in abeyance, as a guarantee for the future complying with the provisions of the Fisheries Act, as being now completely satisfied. -

I have only further to add, that I have now much pleasure in recommending the same to your favourable consideration. . . .

At the same time - I give it as my candid opinion that each defendant do pay the Constable's legal costs, of his own suit. -

I believe this is a wise conclusion on my part, to arrive at, and will result in the future maintenance of the law, which is what I desire to see upheld, without creating embittered feelings. . . .

I may add, that the appeals entered into by the defendants, were for the purpose of obtaining time to petition you. . . .

The petitioners are all men willing to assist me in future to uphold the Fisheries Act, in preventing speckled trout in close season. -

With due respect,

Hon: Minister

H. H.

Ottawa.

I have &c.

John W. Kerr.

D.O.

Tuesday, 12. October 1875.

at Minona, Grimsby - and home again - found all regular, fishing has been very slow for last fortnight, very rough weather. - still 36.  
 144 B. 3.00 tolls 14, - dinner 25.

Wednesday 13. Oct 1875.

at the Lagers Inlet, enquiring about a boat seen out, supposed to be gill net setting, went out at 8.30. a.m. came in at 3. p.m.  
 Miles 9. 144 W<sup>n</sup> 1.50 -

Thursday 14. Oct: 1875;

at Toronto, Duffin's Creek, and Pt Union - examined  
Duffin's Creek, see my report of 15. instant. - went  
out at 8. a.m. Came in at 8. p.m. Miles 78<sup>4</sup> -  
Ref fare \$2.40. dinner & tea had 75, 84 & B: 1.50, + 1.50

Friday 15. October 1875. -

at Pt Union. Toronto & Hamilton, Ref fare <sup>\$</sup>1.85.  
Breakfast 25. - Express charges on fish \$1.00 + 1.50  
went out at 8.30. Came in at 2. p.m. Miles 60.

Monday 18. October 1875.

at Minona. found all regular, went out at  
7. a.m. Came in at 1. p.m. Miles 32. -  
84 W<sub>3</sub> <sup>\$</sup>3.00.

25. October 1875.

My dear Sir. -

Yours of the 29. of September was  
duly received. -

In reply, I beg to say; that I will  
require large and small trout, a large quantity of  
spawn, and troutlets. - please go on, and catch all  
the trout you will require for yourself, and for me  
I have the Authority to procure all I want; please  
write and let me hear whenever you have a large  
supply on hand, and I will come up at once, I  
have pail to carry fish, and Oad, With kind re-  
gards, believe me, Y<sup>rs</sup> sincerely.

George A. Jacey Esq.  
Hopkdale  
Mill Brook, P. Office

John W. Kern

34 postage



Sir,

12, October 1875,

I have the honor to report that Mr John S. MacKenzie Secretary of the Long Point Company, Hamilton, has placed in my hands your letter of 4<sup>th</sup> instant, in reply to a petition from the M<sup>rs</sup> J. Durfee & Coy, with a request from him, that I would explain to you what it is the M<sup>rs</sup> J. Durfee & Coy really did want your sanction for, under sub section 14. of section 13, of the Fisheries Act. -

Altho' I am reluctant in interfering in the fishing operations of the Long Point division over which my Jurisdiction ceased last year by the appointment of Mr John A. Backhouse there, still I hope I will be excused by you for doing so in this case. - Because the Long Point Company from the protection they afforded me at all times heretofore to preserve the fish and fisheries in and about their property at Long Point - Lake Erie: - so highly merited my approval that I had much pleasure always in reporting the same to you annually in furnishing my report for each each season. - - -

I may here mention that it is not, and never was the intention of the M<sup>rs</sup> J. Durfee & Coy, to do anything by which the due observance of the Sabbath day, under the Provincial Act shall be violated, or the sub section hereinbefore referred to by you, be invaded in any manner whatever; The Pound nets shall not be visited nor fished up by them at all, between 6 o'clock p.m. on Saturday evening, and 6 o'clock A.M. on the following Monday morning."

Mr Backhouse, it appears visited the Pound Nets, of M<sup>rs</sup> J. Durfee & Coy, on a Sunday during the late Summer, and found the Pound in their usual fishing position; He fined them for not lifting the wings or heels, &c. as they are called, during this period referred to



in such Sub Section 14, of Section 13, of the Fisheries Act. -- By referring to your Orders in Council, you will please find that Sub Section 14, of Section 13, of the Fisheries Act, was repealed, or made applicable to the Salmon fishing nets only! -- please refer to the Regulations, on this head, and you will find it is so. -- Thus! so far as the Pound net fishermen at Long Point Lake Erie, are concerned it is I believe a just, proper, and reasonable application on their part. -- I have heard repeatedly, that the Pound net fishermen under the Regulation referred to, in Pigeon bay, Point aux Plais, Pelee Island, Two Creeks, Kingsville and Amherstburgh -- in the Upper part of L. Erie, are at present enjoying the privileges without being molested in any way, and which is only what it appears the Blackemore states to me, the Shelf? Dufferin they are now applying for. --

I hope I will be pardoned by you for bringing the matter thus clearly before you, and recommending it as I do for your kind consideration, based upon the reasons I have herein taken the liberty of directing your attention to. ....

With much respect,

W. J. Whitaker Esq  
Comr of Fisheries  
At Large.

I Have the  
Honble Secy  
T. O.

Queens Hotel

J. W. Kerr Esq<sup>r</sup>

Fort Erie, Oct: 18/75.

Dear Sir - I owe Mr Bruce of the  
Firm of Bruce Walker & Burton, Twenty dollars, you  
will please pay him the twenty dollars you owe  
me for the Field Glass, and send me his Receipt  
by so doing you will much oblige

Yrs respectfully  
William Hall.

Hamilton, 19. October 1875. Received from Mr.  
John W. Kerr the sum of Twenty dollars on account  
Mr William Hall being to pay half years interest  
on his loan of \$500.00.

Bruce Walker & Burton,

My dear Sir,

I just received your note and  
the \$20, from the A. department this day. - paid  
it over as you directed, and you will now  
please find the receipt of Bruce, Walker &  
Burton, as you required herewith.

Yrs sincerely  
John W. Kerr

Hamilton,

19. Oct: 1875.

Wm Hall Esq<sup>r</sup>

Queens Hotel  
Fort Erie.

Postage 3<sup>x</sup>4

Mailed and delivered the following orders in Council this 25. of October 1875. - to the undersigned. -

1. S. S. Wicks, - Super's Proprietor - Toronto. -
2. W. B. Munday - do. - Agent, Hamilton. -
3. Wm Englebert, Fisherman, Toronto. -
4. Mrs Walsh, Fish dealer, Toronto. -
5. Francis Portwine - Jates Gulley. - Scarborough. - Fisherman
6. Len. Marsh - Fisherman - Leslie P. Office. -
7. Michael Doyle, Fish dealer, Toronto. -
8. George Mark, Fisherman, Frenchman's Bay.
9. Messrs Wright & Wiggery - Corner of Young and Richmond Streets. - Toronto. - - -
10. Wm Taylor, 94, Young St., Toronto. -
11. Sheriff Woodruff, St. Catharines. -
12. Mr Leach. - Fish dealer, St. Catharines. -
13. Mr Bilton, J & H. dealer, King St. Toronto.
14. Patrick Stand, Fisherman - Winona. -
15. Joseph Moon - Port Union. - -
16. - Wm McEort, Fisherman, Frenchman's Bay. -
17. Mr John Mosley, Fisherman - Leslie P. Office. -
18. Thomas Mansfield, Fisherman - Frenchman's Bay. -
19. Abram St. Grobb, do, Beamsville, P.O.
20. John Stand, Fisherman, Grimsby - P.O.
21. John Bolton, Fisherman, Niagara, P.O.
22. Thomas Elliott, do, do.
23. Richard Gilbert, do, Jordan. - P.O.
24. Isaac D. Johnson, - do, Grimsby P.O.
25. Charles and Alfred Ball, Fishermen - Niagara P.O.
26. James Cantwell, Fisherman - Niagara. -
27. John Davis, S. Curtis, Isaac Stevens, Joseph Jates  
The Dixon Brothers and R. D. Bates - Hamilton.

Postages 25¢

Joseph Jates



GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA,

Thursday, 30th day of September, 1875.

PRESENT :

HIS EXCELLENCY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF  
THE GOVERNMENT IN COUNCIL.

ON the recommendation of the Honorable the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and under the provisions of the 19th section of the Act passed in the Session of the Parliament of Canada, held in the 31st year of Her Majesty's Reign, chaptered 60 and known as "The Fisheries Act," His Excellency, by and with the advice of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, has been pleased to order, and it is hereby Ordered, that the Regulations for the Province of Ontario relating to Whitefish, Salmon-Trout or Lake-Trout and Herrings, adopted by the Governor General in Council on the 3rd of April last under the said Act, be and the same are hereby rescinded, and the following Regulation be and the same is hereby adopted in lieu thereof.

REGULATION.

CLOSE TIME FOR WHITEFISH, SALMON-TROUT OR LAKE-TROUT.

"No person shall fish for, catch, kill, buy, sell or possess any Whitefish, Salmon-Trout or Lake Trout between the twelfth day of November and the first day of December in each year, in the Province of Ontario."

W. A. HIMSWORTH,  
Clerk, Privy Council.

*John W. Kerr*  
*Fishery Overseer.*  
*Hamilton. —*



My dear Sir,

In reply to my application to put on additional assistance on Duffins Creek, for the protection of the breeding Salmon there, I am authorized by the Dept. to do all I deem necessary in that behalf. . . .

Will you be pleased then, as soon as the fish make their appearance to put on a faithful day man, and two night men - who can be relied upon, and who will faithfully discharge their duty without fear, favour or affection to any one. . . .

The persons employed will have to keep a diary of the daily and nightly matters, that may happen or transpire while they are on duty. - the number of fish in the Creek, and the different places where they were observed, each day, or each night. Also they must warn all persons to keep away from the Creek, any person found prowling about either in boats, or on foot or near the Creek, will be prosecuted: please tell Byron and your day man, to visit the mouth of the Creek occasionally in the boat by day, and one of the night men should do the same in the early part of the night, when the fish are coming in from the Lake. . . .

Please answer and tell me how matters have progressed since I was down last, and whenever anything happens always write or telegraph me. - With kind regards

Wm. Smith Esq.  
Duffins Creek.

Yrs Sincerely,

John W. Kerr  
21. Oct. 1875.

If you are not working the mill at night, perhaps Alex. the miller might act as night men.

Tell Byron my dependence is centered in himself. . . .

Yl J. W. Kerr

Set.

19. October 1875.

I have the honor to report for your information that I deem it expedient now that you have been pleased in doing away altogether with close season for Sterring; to have one uniform size mesh for Sterring gill nets; viz.  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " two and one half, inch mesh extension measure. . . .

By adopting this size by either an Order, or regulation it will give the public fish of a superior size, and entirely do away with the small sizes of unmarketable fish.

I have much pleasure in the interest of the great Sterring fisheries of the Province of Ontario, in recommending this, for your immediate Consideration and adoption. . . .

With much respect

I have &c

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.

Ottawa,

Mr Kerr,

Will you be able to collect speckled trout or speckled trout via for streams at Wilnots. -

S. P. B.

Ottawa, 28. October 1875.

Yes! send word to Mr Wilnot.

to send me his speckled trout

trap net immediately and I

will endeavour to supply him

for the streams you refer to.

S. P. B.

W. J.

John W. Kerr

J. W.

30. Oct 1875

Ottawa,

My dear Sir,

Your telegraph received, I have sent  
to get you trap net, and will send it to you  
in a few days. With kind regards,

George A. Lacey Esq  
Hope Dale  
Hillburg, —

Yrs Sincerely,  
John W Kerr  
Hamilton,  
30. Oct 1875,

I shall require fish and Ova from you  
and W Hull,

J. W. K.

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to let me know  
what the last week has brought forth in the Salmon  
line in Duffins Creek. —

I have many fish yet made their appearance  
there, Has Byron regularly visited the creek, as  
far as the mouth, and grappled for John Beck's trap  
net, let him use the boat for this purpose, and a line  
with an iron spike tied by a string, about a  
third from light end of same, and haul the  
spike after the boat, and he will soon catch  
the net. It may be set at the mouth of  
some narrow place in the stream. —

With kind regards

Moses Smith Esq  
Duffins Creek,

Yrs Y,  
John W Kerr  
Hamilton  
30. Oct 1875.

My dear Sir,

I intend being at your place on <sup>next</sup> Wednesday morning - for to get some speckled trout, which I hope you will be pleased to assist me in procuring. -

I shall when I arrive, inspect your Mill again, with the view of continuing my former report of the state in which I have found everything, I will be over early. -

Y<sup>rs</sup> Truly,

John W. Kerr 3.H

D. O.

6. Nov: 1875. -

James Keene Esq<sup>r</sup>

Proqueston

Carlisle P. Office. - -

My dear Sir,

I intend being at your place on next Wednesday morning, for to get some live speckled trout, which I hope your son, the young lad, will assist me in procuring under the mill wheel. -

I shall when I arrive inspect your mill again, with the view of repeating my report to the fisheries department of the improvements made &c. &c. I will be over early. - -

With kind regards. Believe me,

Very sincerely Y<sup>rs</sup>

John W. Kerr

D. O.

6. Nov: 1875.

Wm. Campbell Esq<sup>r</sup>

Proqueston - -

Carlisle P. Office.

Postages & Stationery  $\frac{2.10}{=}$



+ Thursday 4. Nov: 1875. -

at Toronto, and the Island. - warned the fishermen and the fish-dealers - that the law respecting close season for White fish, and Salmon Trout would be strictly enforced by me this fall - gave each, a copy of the order in Council. - went out at 9. a.m. came in at 10. p.m. Miles 52. Ryf fare  $\frac{4}{1.30}$  - boat hire  $\frac{4}{1.00}$  dinner, tea and bed  $\frac{4}{75}$ .  $\frac{4}{44}$   $\frac{4}{1.50}$ . 4.554

+ Friday, 5. Nov: 1875.

at Toronto and Hamilton, all night went out at 9. a.m. came in at 2. p.m. - Miles 44. Ryf fare  $\frac{4}{1.30}$ . Breakfast  $\frac{4}{25}$ .  $\frac{4}{44}$   $\frac{4}{1.50}$  Boat 1.00.

+ Monday, 8. Nov: 1875.

at Winona. - handed Paddy Stand, 12 pounds. Ho: 50. 3 Cord thread, for S. Y. gill nets  $5\frac{1}{2}$ " - also gave him a Cap, and plaid trousers. The thread is  $\frac{4}{15}$ . - went from thence to B. Beach, ascertained that John Whitmore was getting up 84. gill net, for to fish in B. bay, and some other also. - heard that Sam. Blown was on the Bch hunting up old gill net to fish in Bay, with two others on a similar purpose. - went out at 7.30. a.m. came in at 3. p.m. Miles about 36.  $\frac{4}{44}$  and  $\frac{4}{15}$   $\frac{4}{3.00}$ , dinner  $\frac{4}{25}$ . -

+ Wednesday, 10. Nov 1875.

at Proqueston, to visit Saw Mills caught 13. Speckled Trout for Whitmore, put them in Count House a. pond. - Inspected Mills; see Report to Sam. McChavis letter. - of 1. Nov: 1875. went out at 8. a.m. came in at 7. p.m. Miles about 32.  $\frac{4}{44}$   $\frac{4}{15}$   $\frac{4}{3.25}$  tolls included dinner for self & Charles John 50¢

Sir,

10. November 1875. --

I have the honor to receive your instructions to report upon Constable Samuel McNair's letter of the 1<sup>st</sup> instant, "Requesting that counsel be given him in connection with prosecutions against mill owners on 12 mile Creek. --

In reply, I consider it not advisable to do so, as the mill owners are now complying with the law, and at great expense, and because I have so fully in my former reports of the 18, and the 22, of August, the 2<sup>d</sup> September and the 8, of October last, said all up to the then last date, in these cases, that I deemed necessary, and advisable in behalf of justice, and in the interest of the fisheries, and the fisheries department, that I should say, and lay before you, as a public officer and feeling incumbent to do. -- I really had expected, that you would have been pleased before this, to have disposed of these cases finally as recommended to you, in my report of 8, of October last. --

McNair, however, in his letter of 1<sup>st</sup> instant, again writes you: -- "I would also inform you that from information received this day, I am satisfied that some, if not all of these mills are again running in defiance of the law, and without making any effort to prevent the saw dust from drifting into said Creek. --

These assertions are deliberate falsehoods. -- By reference to my report of 8, of October last, written by me after a personal inspection then made of the saw mills referred to, will now clearly show you, it is so, a falsehood. --

But in order, that you may not be led astray by the imagination of Constable S. McNair & I have this day again visited the saw mills of Messrs James Kewal, Greenman Green, and W. Campbell &c. and I found the saw mills had not been sawing since I visited them last on the 8 of October.

And Mr Green, as I reported already, does not intend to saw any more, and has altogether given up sawing.

Mr James Kenial has been sawing a little plank to repair his dam, but not a particle of saw dust can escape into the creek now; besides he has just commenced at considerable expense to build a new mill, at a place where he will have a clear field, and full control over the saw dust, so as to keep it out of the creek with less expense to him, than where his old mill is at present situated.

And as regards Mr Campbell's mill, he has overhauled it, and is at present making a thorough repair all over, - at a cost of about \$1000. which he will have finally finished in about 2 weeks time. - Beneath the Circular saw, he has built a square room 12' x 12' feet, and which is 7' feet high, for the reception of the saw dust, the floor of this room, is 14' feet above from the surface of the water beneath, and from this, saw dust room a tramway is being laid down, for a distance of 40 yards, upon which a car load of the saw dust can be run out to the bank of the creek, where he intends in future to burn it.

This mill is situated between the high banks of the 12 mile Creek, and to conform with the provisions of the Fisheries Act, these repairs at great expense has to be incurred by Mr Campbell.

In all my former reports, regarding convictions on Saw Mills Owners &c, for instance - "Please take Duffin Creek," you have been pleased to allow the fines to remain in abeyance, and the result has ever since proved most satisfactory.

I have therefore again to recommend that the cases be disposed of by you, as I have already reported they should be on the 8. of October next, and which I hope will yet meet your approval.



personally, I have no interest, individually, in the saw-mill owners, except to lay all things fairly before you, telling you at the same time that lumbering is dull with them, - and that if Messrs Green and Kewal, would be compelled to pay \$50, dollars, and costs - over which Con: McNair is so jubilant, upon questionable testimony - it would be in my opinion an act of oppression, which the department in its wisdom made provision for, when it had the 16. section inserted in the act. - and which was so wisely afterwards covered by the latter part of Sub Section 6, of the said section, whereby the Hon: Minister has the power to remit fines, upon the person convicted of peaching to him by petition, which they have done in these cases. -

With much respect. -

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister,

H. H. H.

Ottawa,

I Have the

John W. Kerr,

J. O.

My dear Mr Smith. -

I hope everything goes on well with the salmon in Duffins Creek. - Now during the full of the moon, you may expect a big run, and so a vigilant and attentive watch both night and day is most necessary. -

Please write me how things are getting on, and with kind regards to you, Mr Smith and family, Believe me, Yours truly,

John W. Kerr J. O.

Hamilton 12 Nov: 1875.

Masses Smith Esq

Duffins Creek,

Postage 3¢



Sir,

13. November 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith the copy of report dated this day, from me addressed to the Hon. The Minister of Marine and Fisheries Ottawa, which affects a conductor, so far as having fish in his possession at Galt, this day, in contravention of the Fisheries Act. - -

I send you herewith, a printed copy of the Regulations in Council referred to, and respectfully, and earnestly pray! - that you will be pleased to issue orders to your agents on the different Railways not to receive the fish referred to, until after the 1st of December next, With due respect.

I Have the Honor to remain

J. Broughton Esq  
 Gt Managers  
 G. W. Ry and  
 Branches - Hamilton,

Yr  
 Obedient servant,  
 John W. Kerr  
 T.O.

+ Saturday, 13. Nov 1875.

At Galt, to inspect Mr. Blair's mill dam, made my report thereon - while there seized a barrel of fresh, Salmon Trout and White fish - please see my report, went out at 8. A.M. Came in at 11.30. P.M. - \$2.00, 40 H.B. 1.50 Miles 66.

My dear Sir,

Yours received, go to Mr Robertson, the Mayor, and get from him a summons for me to attend as a witness in your behalf, so that he may legally make Mr Clark pay my expenses when he dismisses the case brought by her against you:

Please send summons to me by mail. - Will be up Friday morning, by the first passenger train. - please tell the Mayor so.

Yrs & John W Kerr J. A

16. Nov 1875

J. Williams.

J. dealer.

John

private,

My dear Sir,

Many thanks for your kind letter, I took a run down there on yesterday, and called upon Mr Maxwell, and I send him his app<sup>t</sup> to-day. I am quite satisfied Mr Maxwell can tell who killed the salmon last year and this. - please get him to do this immediately - as it will have a good effect. - The mouth of the Miland creek was splended, on yesterday. -

If you can get Mr Maxwell to tell and prove something to criminate himself Joe Black Dave Thompson or Hamlin, &c, &c, &c, I will come down and make search for nets, and spears &c, in their houses and premises. - please answer, as soon as you have spoken with Mr Maxwell; more salmon should go up the creek during the full of the present moon. - With kind regards.

Wm. Maxwell Esq

J. P. Miland-Creek

P. office

Yrs Sincerely

John W Kerr

J. A. 17 Nov: 1875.

13, December 1875.

13, December 1875.

I have the honor to report that while it is my determination to strictly enforce the close season for white fish and Salmon Trout, in my division, it will become necessary for me to run inland to town where I may hear of these fishes being for sale over the Country. I may I do so, and will you be pleased to give your sanction at once to my doing this, as I have already heard of certain movements going on in this direction. -

The American Express Company here have promised me their unlimited assistance. -  
 Hon: Minister I have &c  
 F. F. F. John W. Kerr  
 Ottawa, D. O.

My dear Sir

I send you three appeals -

No: 1. Original - you keep - get some person to give No: 2 to Morris B. Luby Esq. J. P. Galt, and No: 3. give & serve on Mrs Barbara Clark, who complained against you. Keep No: 1. in your possession. -

As you will have to enter into recognizance - please send me the names of and occupations of two persons to go your sureties, and I will prepare and send you the Appeal Recognizance for sureties.

There is no case against you, as the Magistrates have overstepped their power.

Yrs truly  
 John W. Kerr  
 D. O.

Mr John Williams.  
 Fish Dealer.  
 Galt. -

20. Dec. 1875.

As the notices have to be served within four days - please serve them on Monday but not later than Tuesday next. If J. W. Kerr

My dear Sir,

Yours received, if any Salmon Trout, or Lake trout, and white fish, arrive at Port Credit, as you expect they will, - I empower and authorize you to seize them for me, and in my name, and keep them for me - Reporting to me at once, and I will run down and dispose of them to your advantage by fines and forfeitures. - Telegraph me if you make a seizure. - -

Yrs Sincerely  
John W. Kerr

John F. Wilson  
J. O.  
Port Credit.

J. O.  
Hamilton, Onto  
22. Nov. 1875

My dear Sir,

Can you assist me in seizing white fish, Salmon Trout, and Lake Trout during close season - If you can, or get some person to do so, I will make it to their advantage. - -

Have been ordered to prosecute suspicious Agents and Conductors - Get some person to examine the drain for me, - and seize the fish - White fish and S. T. and Lake Trout going to Buffalo, and then keep until you telegraph for me and I come down. -

I am very busy just received your letter, Hall and you shall have the first offer of Starkie's fishery - Paul's will never get it any more. - -

Now please do assist me. - and you will do me a great favour by making or having a seizure or two made. -

Yrs Sincerely

John W. Kerr

J. O.

22. Nov. 1875.

Charles Noble Esq  
Customs Dept  
J. O. Erie -

Very kind regards to Mr. Hall

Yrs J. W. Kerr



Sir,

22, November 1875.

I have the honor to report for your information, that John Williams a fish dealer to whom I sold the Barrel of Trout, and White fish, I seized at Galt, on the 13. inst. as already reported to you, was summoned up before Morris Esq. J. P. Galt, on the 13. inst. ~~as already reported to you~~ on Friday last, the 19<sup>th</sup> inst.

For selling the Confiscated fish, I seized on the 13<sup>th</sup> instant. The Complaint being made by Mrs Barbara Clark, also referred to, in my report of 13. inst. -

Copy of Mrs Clark's complaint is herewith, but, she ~~has~~ was not examined at the Trial, nor was any sale proved. - I was examined for the defence, and surely my evidence herewith, does not prove anything to convict Williams - Still! I have to report, that he was fined five dollars, and 2.70 costs. - Altho' not put in in evidence, it was stated by Counsel for the prosecution, that a Telegram was received from the Overseer at Collingwood, that he gave Arthur Clark, the Shipper, a permit to send this barrel of fish herein referred to,

You will perceive by the address on the card herewith. Collusion in this matter. -

I have asked the Magistrate not to impose the fine until I reported, and received your decision in this strangest disposition of a case without evidence that I have ever beheld before in all my experience. - - -

It was argued by Counsel, and coincided in by the Magistrate - that an Order in Council, or a Regulation by the C. Gt. should be first in existence to empower Confiscated fish being legally sold. -

I could hammer nothing into the Magistrate's brain - who even doubted my power or authority to seize the barrel of fish referred to. - The only authorized person who could legally make such a seizure being those persons referred to, in Sub Section 2. of Section 11. of the Fisheries Act. -

All the other executive sections and sub sections of the Fisheries Act, had no power in prevailing upon Mr. Monro's Lute, to do anything but what I have here set forth he done to John Milligan - viz<sup>t</sup> fine him <sup>4</sup> 70. for selling Confiscated fish, over which I contend no known law, has any jurisdiction. -

Please give your decision in this case without delay. -

With due respect,

I Have &c,

John W. Kent  
D. A.

Hon<sup>r</sup>. Minister  
&c. &c. &c.  
Ottawa,

Friday 19, November 1875. -

At Salt, attending prosecution - was examined for the defence - no witness examined to prove sale - John Williams was fined <sup>4</sup> 5. and <sup>4</sup> 2.70 - for selling Confiscated White fish and Salmon Trout. - please see my report of 22. Nov: 1875. - - - went out at 8. a. m. came in at 9. p. m. - Mile <sup>4</sup> 68. - , Ry fare <sup>4</sup> 2.00 dinner & tea <sup>4</sup> 60. H. and W. <sup>4</sup> 3.00. -

Thursday 15 November 1875.

At Toronto, and Port Union, thence up the Rouge and saw James Maxwell Esq<sup>r</sup> who promised to watch and protect the Salmon in the Big and Little Rouge - went out at 8. a. m. came in at 11.30. p. m., 150 miles. H. & W. <sup>4</sup> 5.00. Ry fare <sup>4</sup> 3.20. dinner & tea <sup>4</sup> 60. - - see Mr Maxwell appt<sup>d</sup> - & back to Hamilton,

Sir,

16. Nov: 1875.

I have the honor to authorize and empower you to aid me, and to act as Fishing Guardian, on the Big and Little Rouge, situated in the townships of Scarborough, and Pickering - South Ontario, and to protect the Salmon therein from being caught or killed during the close season. - -

As I understand you have been already on the watch during the fall for some time past, this Authority will date back to the first time when you first time commenced to give the Salmon your attention. - - -

You will please report to me any contravention of the Fishing Act, that you may have already seen or heard of, giving me the names of all the offenders. - I shall recommend you to be paid for the services rendered to the Fisheries. -

Yours Maxwell Esq I have &c, to remain  
Maxwells Mills  
Miland Creek,  
Onto

Yr Obedt Servant,  
John W. Kerr  
D. A.,

Wednesday 17. November 1875. -

At B. Heights found all regular engineering about Jack light seen in Dundas Marsh - the previous Saturday night, - went out at 2. p. m. came in at 9. p. m. Miles 10. 14 & B. 2. - - -



Sir,

10, Nov, 1895,

I have the honor to report for your information, that while I was at the Railway Station at Galt, this afternoon, I observed Charles Daly - Conductor, H. V. Freight Train - on the Gt. W. & O. & Bruce Railway, on its way from Galt to Harrisburg putting off a barrel, the upper end of which was partly open, - containing fresh Salmon Trout and White fish, addressed to Mr. A. Clark of Galt, Ont. which I seized, confiscated and sold these for the benefit of the Dept. for \$5, to Mr. Williams - fish dealer there.

Shall I prosecute Charles Daly, the Conductor, for having the same in his possession in Contention of the Regulation of the Fisheries Act made by the G. Council in Council dated 30. of September last? and promulgated all over the Province of Ontario, and in which it is now in full force and operation. -

Mr. Daly, who imagined at first he could not be made responsible, and appeared indifferent about the matter, after a moments reflection thought better of it, and said he received the barrel from the G. T. Ry at Guelph. -

I shall send a Copy of this letter to F. Poughon Esq. the able Gen. Manager of the G. W. Ry and Branches here, and ask him to afford the Fisheries Department his kind aid in assisting me, and be pleased to discontinue and discountenance through the Agents the receiving and sending Wh. fish and S. I over his Railways until after the 1st of December next, and as his predecessors have heretofore so effectually done before him. -

I have to

Yours truly

J. W. Kerr

Hon. Minister

G. T. Ry.

Ottawa,



Private.

My dear Sir

Copy of your petition received your department today, and reported upon. So far I have beaten your salt guards. - The Conductor, The Shipper, the J. Brunk and Supple Coy. are ordered to be prosecuted and Mrs and Robert Clarke if I can get a case ag<sup>t</sup> them. - -

I hope to be able to take you clear out of the trouble - through the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Minister's decision. -

John Williams  
J. deales

Yalt. -

Yrs sincerely  
John W. Kerr  
J. W.

24 Nov 1875.

Endeavour to find something more ag<sup>t</sup> Mrs and Rob<sup>t</sup> Clarke - more secretly.

Yrs J. W. Kerr

Thursday 18, Nov 1875,  
At Jagers Inlet and Bay - making enquiries about fishing &c. thence to Hamilton, went out at 2. p. m. came in at 6. p. m. Miles 14. ~~At B~~  
2.50. C. J. Kerr with me.

Wednesday 24, Nov 1875,  
At Dundas and B. Heights, in connection with the fisheries - went out at 8.30, a. m. came in at 4.30 p. m. Miles 26, ~~At B~~ 3.00.  
Circulating the license to Spear Fishing. -  
Edward Kerr with me. -

Confidential.

24. Nov. 1875.

Sir, — I have the honor to report for your information, that I received private information today, from Mr Charles Duffy - fisherman - and fish dealer - that several of the fishermen fishing annually in the Georgian Bay are now fishing there in defiance of the close season and are catching Wh. fish and Salmon Trout there, as I was assured by thousands. —

In your letter of 20, instant, "You ask me to state what localities I deem it necessary to proceed in order to detect parties whom I have reason to suspect are in the habit of shipping fish to Toronto and other markets during close season?" —

I consider, Collingwood, Meaford, and Thornebury, on the Georgian Bay, the best places, and where it is reported in confidence - by Mr Charles Duffy - White fish, and Salmon Trout are being now caught by thousands. —

If you approve I will take a run up there, hire a tug, if necessary, go out and serve nets, boats and fish - and having procured the necessary proof inflict heavy fines, and forfeitures - by doing this, the close season will in future be strictly enforced, hence why I telegraphed you on this subject today. —

Please give me the Authority, and the funds, and I am in the midst of it, in 12 hours after your instructions are received by me. —

With due respect,

I Have &c

John W. Kerr  
D. O.

Hon: Minister,

Ottawa,

Mr A. Clark is not known at Galt, but Robert and Barbara his wife - fish dealers, are, and she received a barrel of fish by Express the evening before - and was away selling them when I called at the house and remonstrated with her husband for breaking the law. -

part of letter at  
page 846. -

Yrs. J. W. Kerr  
D.O.

his

24. Nov 1875,

I have the honor to receive from you the petition of Mr John Williams - Fish dealer - Galt - for my remarks thereon. - I may here state that the facts set forth therein are strictly correct, as I appeared at the trial as a witness for Mr Williams. - Mr Williams told me he sold the barrel of <sup>confiscated</sup> fish referred to, and informed all the buyers of the same, they were confiscated fish he sold them; just as other fish-dealers in this city, sold 14 barrels - I seized and confiscated for a similar offence, committed during close season for White fish in November last year.

The Magistrate named in the petition contends that the fish herein referred to, could not be sold by any dealer without an order in Council being first made by the Governor General to that effect. - - While my opinion is, that being confiscated fish once, the fishery law cannot a second time nor any more meddle with them. - I endeavoured to make myself clear to the Convicting Magistrate on this head, but he was immovable. - - -

I strongly recommend that the prayer of the petition of Mr Williams may be granted, for if any offence was committed, Mr Williams was not by any means to blame. My report sent you on yesterday will with this fully explain everything about the case I hope

3



and exonerate (him), Mr John Williams from the fine and costs inflicted upon him - as I believe the fish under the act, were without the jurisdiction of the law, being previously confiscated by me,

With due respect,

Hon. Minister  
 &c. &c. &c.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c,  
 John W. Kerr  
 O. A.

Mr Kerr,

Ottawa, 23. Nov. 1875.

I have gone through the 12, mile creek papers. - - -

Mr Bauset.

(1.) Mr McKinnon proposes for enforcement of payment of the fine, in order I presume that he may secure his half, { You are <sup>(1)</sup> perfectly right, that is Mr McKinnon's sole object from first to last.

(2.) You recommended that fine be remitted, or held in abeyance. - But judgement not having been given by a Fishery officer as a Magistrate, I fail to see how this can be done. - he quashed, and the ex-  
 Yes! I strongly recom-  
 mend this, because if the  
 appeals are heard, I be-  
 lieve all the convictions will  
 be quashed, and the ex-  
 penses will then fall heav-  
 ily on Mr McKinnon, The Minister  
 in any case can do better!

(3.) The mill owners apply for exemption of compliance with the Statute, Yes! - but <sup>(3)</sup> upon my ad-  
 vice they are now, and  
 have been since 8. of Oc-  
 tober complying with law  
 and putting mills in order  
 according to requirements of Act.

(4.) The proper course according to my notion would be to petition for remission of the fines on the grounds that they have fully com-  
 plied with the Statute, and will no more offend. -

(5.) When will the case come in, I agree with you in this appeal? - and will advise them accord-  
 ingly, because I believe the  
 deserves the Minister's disposition  
 of the case, as I recommended

S. P. B. 5

The 14 of Dec next.  
 24. Nov. 1875. John W. Kerr



Private,

My dear Sir,

Mr. John Barr, M.L.A. (Abby) informed me to-day, there was no evidence to support the Conviction against the Saw Mill Owners on 12 mile Creek, when before the Court on appeal.

Yrs Respectfully  
John Barr

J. B.

24. Nov 1875.

S. P. Russell Esq

J. Barr

Albany,

Private,

My dear Sir,

Please send for your clients James Kewal, and Freeman Green, and have them petition the Minister of Marine and Fisheries - Ottawa for remission of their fines on the ground that they have fully complied with the Statute, and will no more offend. Do this at once, and I believe it will be granted immediately.

Yrs Obediently

John Barr

J. B.

24 Nov 1875.

R. R. Woodchall Esq

Solicitor, &amp;c. &amp;c.

Hamilton

P.S. - Kewal has fixed his old mill, is building a new one. Green has not saved since fixed, and will not save any more.

Yrs J. W. Kerr

Private,

My dear Sir,

Please send for your client, Mr William Campbell, and have him petition the Minister of Marine and Fisheries - Ottawa - for remission of his fine on the grounds that he has fully complied with the Statute, and will offend no more. -

Do this at once, and I have reason to believe it will be granted immediately.

Yrs Obediently

John W. Kerr

D.O.

D. B. Chisholm Esq

Barriester at Law

Hamilton.

24. Nov; 1875.

Private,

My dear Sir,

Please send for Messrs Charles Seely & Co. and have them petition the Minister of Marine and Fisheries - Ottawa - for remission of the fines, on the grounds that they have been, and will fully comply with the Statute, (if it is so) and will no more offend; Do this at once, and I have reason to believe it will be granted immediately. -

Chas A. Seely Esq

Barriester at Law

Hamilton,

Yrs Obediently

John W. Kerr

D.O.

24 Nov 1875,

Thursday. 25 Nov: 1875,

At the Heights, and out on the bay. - C. J. K & Fred with me. - 194 B - <sup>\$</sup>2.00<sup>00</sup> - went out at 4.30. p.m. Came in at 11. p.m. Miles 16. - Got #2. license fee. - - -

Sit. &gt;

29, November 1875,

In continuation of my report of yesterday, dated 28, instant, I have now the honor to state that on Saturday last Mr. Milne, Merchant, and fish dealer, at Meaford, Georgian Bay - called on Mr. John Davis, fish dealer, here - and stated he being in this city, just had a telegraph from home, stating that the fishermen there, had been allowed by the Govt through Mr. Patton, Overseer, to fish up their gill nets, and in one haul had caught 4000, S. Trout and wh. fish - he tried to sell some of these fish to Davis.

A large load of fish - fresh, was seen by John Lutherie Stage driver, from Owen Sound to Meaford, on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> of November. - These fish come from Cape Rich. -

On Tuesday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November John Lavelle, a Frenchman, had 36 Trout in his possession, he caught on Nails point, or as it appears on the chart, Point Millier - in the township of St. Vincent. -

This is the same fishery S. S. Lewis had a license of, a few years ago.

William Nail resident there, saw the fish in his possession and can prove it.

Charles Nail, and James McKaynolds, are also fishing off Nails point. - -

Between Nail pt. and Owen Sound, the Frenchmen, from Frenchville, are fishing, between Pine point, and Pease Lake.

These places are in Patton and Miller divisions, all of which is respectfully submitted.

I have &amp;c,

John W. Lewis  
D. O.

Sir

28. Nov. 1875.

I have the honor to report for your information, after due enquiries made by me, under great disadvantages, after and before my arrival in Collingwood. - I was told the Indians on the Christian Island, are ~~to~~ have been fishing there all through close season this month, for S. Trout, and white fish - so has Mr Andrew Port, of Collingwood, his two sons, and two other men, perhaps four men, and have been fishing at Christian Island, with two, and two fishing boats, the Overseer Mr Patton upon my recommendation, and advice, will proceed with an open boat, and a crew there this morning, and ascertain all facts, take action, and report, for the information of the department. -

The fishery Overseer, James Patton, informed me, that he was not aware that Andrew Port, was at Christian Island, until I informed him, as he Port had pledged himself to him to stop away from the Island. - The fresh fish so far have been brought into Collingwood, during this close season by Port; I heard he was hoarding them up to be brought in there immediately after close time expires. A severe ex-ample should be made of the Indians, <sup>and Port and his men</sup> the fish should be seized and Confiscated, I tried hard to get a trig, to go out, and make a general examination of the lyn bay, but it was beyond my power to do so; Patton done the same thing for me. - -

Then at Gidleys point, or Harbour, on the Beh in the township of Tring, Bob Doherty, Wm Bishop, Wm Shute, John Goley, and Ben. Dempsey, - Resident fishermen - Collingwood - with their boats, one each, and a man each, have been fishing, all through the close season. - and James Noble and his men fished up on the 13. of November, and caught 700 fish. I was up early this Saturday morning, and I saw a boat leave the Harbour - Collingwood, although it was blowing a gale, before it was quite light, and sail in the direction of Gidleys point. - and I heard it was to apprise these Collingwood fishermen.



who were there fishing, of my presence at bolliu<sup>d</sup> and for them to get off to the Islands, with their fish and everything else out of the way - off the main land - Saturday morning, - I proceeded to Staines Bay - intending to go on to Gidley's point, but money could not procure for me, a conveyance of any kind to fetch me there. - I therefore returned back ~~to~~<sup>to</sup> bolliu again, where in company with Mr Patton made the best trial effort to procure a tug, without succeeding. - -

I therefore came to the final conclusion of reporting the foregoing facts - having just impressed upon Mr Patton mind the great necessity there was for him to act with energy, and promptly at Andrew Port and his crews, and the Indians at Christian Island, giving him a copy of Telegraph received from dept that they are amenable to the law, the same as the White men. - -

Patton having info<sup>d</sup> that Steamer Silver Spray, Seymour - and a schooner - the Kestrels, were still up the lake, and would be soon in Colliu wood, or Green Sound, having fish on Bd<sub>3</sub> caught during the close season, I advised, if he was satisfied the fish he found on Bd<sub>3</sub> were so caught, it was his duty to seize them, and report to you at once for further instruction. - - And will you be pleased to give immediate instruction to Mr Miller the Cruiser at Green Sound, to do the same thing, if these vessels, should put in there. - Because all the fish caught up there, to the commencement of close season, had been already brought down. -

Then regarding Msgs Andrew Port, Bob Do- herty and Corp, - fish caught during close season by them, I advised Mr Patton, to carry out the law to the letter at all these fishermen, also, - from Staines - I telegraphed

Mr. Grasse, Quebec - at Penetanguishene, <sup>or Medford</sup> to proceed <sup>immediately</sup> instantly to <sup>Mr. Grasse's</sup> Mr. Grasse's <sup>office</sup> instructing him to report the result to, to the dept. when I found I could not get there myself, and I wrote Mr. Baublaek, a friend to the dept. to be on the alert for me: - While on their part I may add the telegraph was freely used for them by their friends warning them, at a distance, that I was in the country. - In the about Chalk Island, Light House, in Mr. Abrey's division, I heard about 75 Boats, used by Indians and half breeds, are fishing, and have been fishing during this close season.

The Light House Keeper at Chalk Island, if applied to, by the department, can give you all particulars. The J. O. of Penetanguishene should seize all these fish caught in contravention of the fishing Act, brought in to be sold there. - I heard too, that the fish at Medford and Thornbury, were fishing during close season, this however Patton stated to me was not so, however on the 21st last night, I met a gentleman, who told me, at 9 o'clock, on Friday night before, in the Hotel at Medford, a telegraph was received of my presence in Collingwood. - He told me he saw the fresh trout, and wh. fish, with a man, selling through the streets, on 26. instant, and that the Medford and Thornbury fishermen have their gill nets set out in Long Bay, at this present time. -

In order to put a final stop to these contraventions of the fishing Act, for all time to come, I strongly recommend, that the fish buyers be prosecuted for buying up fish, caught during close season whether salted in packages or fresh. - and please instruct Grasse, Patton and Miller, to seize all such fish so caught at once, and afterwards proceed against the offenders for catching them, also against the buyers who encourage fishermen to break the law, such an example is absolutely necessary. - The packages of fish exported at Collingwood and Owen Sound, will be shipped

by Overseer Abrey - who buy them from the Indian-  
fish caught during close season. Such my info states  
is a fact. - I hope the result of my inquiries will  
meet your approval. - I shall hold myself in  
readiness to carry out your further orders to me  
in relation thereto, prepared to carry them out agt  
all offenders, I hope efficiently. - - -

I feel pride in telling you, that the means adopted  
at my instance, and your printed notices to me, by  
the American and Vickers Re-press boys, and the  
G. M. and Northern Railways have been most sa-  
tisfactory and efficient in its results, on their part.  
These Companies have stood nobly by me, and the  
fisheries dept in frowning down the contravention  
of the fisheries act, by refusing to carry the fish,  
during the close season, after I made the seizure  
at Galt on the 13. instant. Orders being issued to  
this agents & officers to refuse taking them. - - -  
The Police force at Toronto, under the command  
of Major Kaper, have also been active and energetic  
in the same direction. - All of whom have my  
grateful thanks. - - -

You have here from me a correct statement  
of facts, and if you deem it expedient that I  
should return to Collingwood, &c. &c. &c. and proceed  
agt all the offenders, with the assistance of Messrs.  
Patton, Fraser and Miller, for violating the fisheries  
act, I shall be most happy to obey your orders. - -

There is no time to be lost by you in giving  
immediate orders to the Resd Local Comd, per  
act of this report, and write Mr. Cumberland to  
decline carrying the fish caught during close  
season, over the Northern Ry - by instructing his  
Agent at Collingwood, Meaford and Thornbury  
to this effect, pending further inquiries. - -

I have had some plain talk with Patton, J. O.,  
so bitter things I have reason to know, and



now have advise you will I hope follow

I cannot however complete my report without giving due praise to Mr Alex. Colquhoun, and other fishermen at Collingwood, who have set ~~an~~ a noble example to the delinquent fishermen, by strictly obeying the law during the close season. - And to the fish dealer from whom I got the info. whose sole object was that the fisheries act was to be upheld in its purity, ~~and~~ I cannot forget his pure motives. -

With due respect,

I have &c,

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Hon. Minister,

4. 4. 4.

Ottawa.

x Friday, 26. November 1875,

at Toronto, and Collingwood. See my report of 28. and 29. - 84 & B - 2.00, Ry fare Toronto 1.30, dinner for two  $7\frac{1}{2}$ , Ry fare to Collingwood 2.85. Tea and bed  $7\frac{1}{2}$ , Telegraphs 80. - - - Miles 142. - - 8.45.

Saturday, 27. Nov. 1875,

+ Off to Staynes, - see my report, Ry fare  $7\frac{1}{2}$  1.00, Telegraph #1. - Board #1. - went out at 8. a.m. Came in at Collingwood at 1.10 p.m. Miles 16. - Thence back to Toronto, - Ry fare  $7\frac{1}{2}$  2.85 tea 35¢, and bed  $2\frac{1}{2}$ , Miles 96. - Telegraphs  $7\frac{1}{2}$ . -

Sunday 28. Nov. 1875. -

+ At Toronto all day prepared my report, and mailed same in Toronto, Board #1.00¢

Monday 29. Nov. 1875. -

+ At Toronto and home - Miles 44. went out at 7. a.m. Came in at 1.30. p.m. Breakfast  $2\frac{1}{2}$ , Ry fare  $1\frac{1}{2}$  1.30, B. and B.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  1.50. - See report of 29<sup>6</sup>/<sub>2</sub> instant. - - -



My dear Sir,

I give you herewith a copy of Telegraph, I received from Mr S. R. Bauset of G. department, Ottawa, by which you will learn that the Indians of Christian Island, are amenable to the law, for catching and killing Wh. fish and trout during close season, Besides they have no leases nor licenses for fishing. -

James Patton Esq

J. Overseer. -

Bollingwood. -

Yrs sincerely,

John W. Kerr

T.O.

P.S. I would recommend you to go at once to the Island - where you will find the Indians and Andrew Port, fishing during close season. -

Yrs J. W. Kerr

Copy - of I - follows: -

"Immediate"

Globe Hotel,

26, Nov: 1875,

My dear Sir,

Please come here on receipt as I want to consult with you on fishing matters. -

And Oblige Yours truly. -

James Patton Esq

J. Overseer. -

Bollingwood.

John W. Kerr

T.O.

private, My dear Sir,

Mr John Vanblack, { I arrived at Colling-  
 Vanblack, P. office, wood last evening, and here this  
 morning, intending to go on to your place, thence to Gidley's  
 Harbour, on Tiny Beach, where five boats and men from  
 Collingwood, are now fishing and have been all through  
 the close season, for Salmon Trout, and White fish, but neither  
 money, nor any inducement I can use here can obtain for me  
 a conveyance of any kind; as I am satisfied a man from  
 Collingwood came on here, and prevented me from getting  
 a rig to go to your place. - Now what I ask you to do is,  
 on receipt of this run down to Gidley's Harbour, and you  
 will find how matters are, and get the names of those  
 persons there, who are violating the fisheries Act. for which  
 the Department will appreciate your services, and when  
 you find out and note down all the particulars, please  
 write them to me, for the info of the G. Dept which will  
 be highly appreciated by the Hon. the Ministers of Marine  
 &c, and by Your much obliged, and faithful friend  
 John W. Kerr Esq. Starnes, Ont.

Give full particulars, and address 27, Nov: 1875.-  
 at Hamilton, as you usually do. - Yrs J. W. Kerr,  
 They have plenty of fish at Gidley's Harbour,  
 Caught during close season. -

I send you close season proclamation. -

Yrs J. W. Kerr. -

S. M. Bauset,  
Fisheries Dept.  
Ottawa.

29. November 1875.

I advised, you Odes, Patton and  
Miles, if Silver Spray, Seymour,  
and Rattle, come in to Collingwood, or Owen Sound  
to bring packages of fish on board, caught dur-  
ing close season, and detain for investigation, and  
order Patton to bring fish, brought in by fishermen  
whom he knows are violating the law.

My reports going by train from Toronto this  
morning.

John W. Kerr

D.O.

S. M. Bauset,  
Fisheries Dept.  
Ottawa.

Reports, I sent you will tell of Contra-  
ventions of fisheries. - fish caught in close  
season will be arriving in Toronto, 1<sup>st</sup>  
of December. I will <sup>go there</sup> bring them and detain them, do you  
approve - Answer here - This thing must be stopped. -

30. November 1875. -

John W. Kerr

D.O.

S. M. Bauset,  
Fisheries Dept.  
Ottawa.

Shall I proceed against the Indians  
for violating fisheries act, please answer  
me fully - on this head - to Globe  
Hotel, Collingwood. -

Aurora - St. Reg.  
26. Nov. 1875,

John W. Kerr.

D.O.

My dear Sir,

On Saturday, a Mr Melne, from Leedsford on J. Bay, received a telegraph about fish from your office - and answered it back to his firm at Leedsford. - Will you be so good, as to let me have copies for the fisheries department, Ottawa. -

And Oblige, Yrs Sincerely,

Lawson Esq

John W. Kerr J. O.

S. of A. J. Bay -  
Hamilton.

30. Nov: 1875.

Collingwood,

My dear Mr. Bauset,

I arrived here at 5.30 p.m., but word was sent before me by some person on the Brail. - -

I will now give you what I have heard has been going on - Andrew Port, and his two sons - and two other men, are at Christian Island - fishing two boats with 15 nets in each boat of 600 yards each net - 18,000 yards, he has been there all through the close season, he came over here, from there on yesterday, but has gone back again today with his tug.

The Indians of Christian Island have also been fishing & catching fish during close season in contravention of the fisheries Act. - - -

Ben Dempsey, John Foley - Wm Bishop, Wm Shuter, and Bob Doherty, are also fishing in the neighbourhood of Christian Island; off Lockbury Pt. - They land their fish at Fiddleys harbour, in the township of Simi. - where they have a shanty in which they live. - - -

Each of these persons have a boat, with 15 nets 9,000 yards in each boat, 45,000 yards in all. -

James Noble, fished up on the 13. Nov: and caught 700. fish, being second day in close season. - - -

I have just seen Mr Patton, Overseer, who has made an engagement with me for 9.30 - tonight, will report result as I proceed; If I can procure



a tug will go for the Christian Island, and King's Bay,  
If I cannot procure a tug, I will have to drive round

S. H. Boushel Esq  
To Dept.  
Ottawa.

Yrs Respectfully,  
John W. Kerr  
H. O.

Hollingswood - 26. Dec. 1875.

James Patton.  
Fishing Overseas. - Miles, has seized 1000  
Hollingswood. - packages fish. from Silver  
Spray, and Kestrels, intended for Co. 1st. - Is the Secy=  
move in, what about Port, and the Indians. -  
Your turn next, be off the port; the depart=  
ment orders that all violations of the fisheries act,  
be put a final stop to. -  
December 1st 1875. - John W. Kerr  
H. O.

Sir -

1st Dec: 1875.

I have the honor to send you herewith  
the copy of a letter I received this day from  
W. H. Graser - Secretary of the Ontario Advisory  
Board, &c. &c. &c. 34. Scott Street, Toronto,  
which I submit for your information, and ask  
for instructions, as to the course I shall take in  
this matter.

With due respect

I have &c.  
John W. Kerr  
H. O.

Hon. Minister  
& & &  
Ottawa.

Sir,

30. Nov 1875.

I have the honor to receive telegraph from the Dept, giving me the pleasing intelligence that Miles, Oversee at Owen Sound, had seized 1000 packages of fish, caught in contravention of the act. -

Leves Smith, the owner of the Reetle, has always been at this unlawful work - I hope an example will be made of him. - Mr Alex. Clark, fisherman - Collingwood, just gave this info about these vessels, and Patton afterwards repeated it to me. -

Patton must seize all fish brought in by fishermen Port, Roberts, Bishop, Foley, Shuter, and Ben. Dempsey - to Collingwood, Meaford and Thornberry, as they were all caught during close season. - -

The 7,000 fish at Meaford, I consider are a portion of them, repeat your order to Patton, as the bygonne is not yet in - also repeat your order to Samuel Jones, Oversee, at Midland, for everything found out by my inquiries and already reported to you by telegraph, and official reports, are as true as gospel now, given me by friends of the fisheries, and fishing dept, who insist through me to lay all things fairly before you.

With due respect,

I have &c.

Hon. Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries.  
Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

My dear Sir,

I send you herewith by order of the Jt. Dept. Post office order for 7. and 70¢, the amount of your fine and costs. - This is the decision arrived at, in reply to your petition - My sentence of the fishing to you has been sustained under the Act, and doubly so, by Section 16, Sub Section 4. Please get receipt for the money from the Clerk, and send to me, and be -  
leave me - Yours friend,

John Williams  
Jr. Dealer,  
Galt,

John W. Kerr  
Jr. D.

2. Dec: 1875.

P.S. - I was in Collingwood, last Friday and Saturday, causing great excitement - Withdraw your appeal. -  
J. W. Kerr

Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> of December 1875,  
at Toronto, to see the Supers Agents, and Mayor Frank Drake - Chief of Police - and the Fish dealers, - about the close season - and Conveying of Salmon Trout and White fish - from Meaford Thornberry, and Collingwood - went out at 8.30. A.M. Came in at 4.30. P.M. - 90 miles, Pay fare 2.60. 14¢ 1/2 3.00. dinner 25. 25¢ 5.55

Sir,

2. December 1875.

I have the honor to enclose you a letter on the Lake fisheries, and the present close season for Salmon Trout and Wh. fish, which I have cut from this days mail newspaper, for <sup>your perusal</sup> onto. -- As for my division in Lake Ontario, is concerned, I have not heard a solitary complaint. -- I believe all the fishermen are perfectly satisfied with this new regulation, and I feel pride in stating that it has been well kept by all without a murmur. -- The fishermen of my division, at this particular season of the year, "the 20. days alluded to?" usually take to Herring gill net fishing which is always profitable in a pecuniary point of view, to them. --

Thus commencing proper Herring season. -- Please excuse me my object in sending this, is, that it should not escape your notice. --

With due respect,

I have &c,

John W. Kerr

J.O.

Hon: Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries,  
Ottawa, .



Sir,

3. December 1875,

I have the honor to apply, and recommend that two fines imposed upon Dan: McJuryne, a fisherman on B. Bay in Lake Ontario, of ten dollars and costs, for selling white fish illegally caught be allowed to remain in abeyance, as a guarantee for future good behaviour. . . .

His wife, his niece and nephew, and two persons who purchased the fish, have paid their fines, which I deem sufficient to answer the ends of Justice. - He appealed against the conviction, and I believe it doubtful if the conviction can be sustained, besides his wife has been again interceding for him, and he has not offended since. . . .

My report of the <sup>16<sup>th</sup> of June and</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> of July last, to which I beg to draw your attention, will explain what the offence was. - Be pleased to carry out my recommendation as the Quarter Session will commence here on the 14<sup>th</sup> instant, He will not do so again. -

With due respect

Yours faithfully

J. H. H.  
Attorney,

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr  
J. A.

Sir,

3, Decr, 1875,

I have the honor to recommend that a fine of \$20, and costs imposed G. H. Corey, a fisherman on the B. Oak "for Seining for White fish in L. Ontario, on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of July last" "in contravention of section 9, of the F. Act." may be allowed to remain in abeyance as a guarantee for future good behaviour, ---

The facts relating to this case I reported fully to you on the 19. day of July last, to which I have now the honor to refer you. ---

I strongly recommend you to do this at once, as G. H. Corey has done much under my supervision, for the good of the fisheries - besides the offence as you will please find by the letter referred to, was not intentional, and he is not I assure you able to raise funds and prosecute his appeal at the Convention. ---

As the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session will commence here on the 14. instant, please do this at once. ---

With due respect,

I have &c

Hon. Ministers,

H. H. H.

Ottawa,

John W. Ross  
J. O.

on B. Oak - this day

H. H. H.

Sir,

3. December 1875.

I have the honor to apply to you for One hundred and seventy dollars - for to pay the ~~understand~~ <sup>mentioned</sup> Salmon River Guardian - for services rendered this fall in protecting the breeding fish, when up spawning. -

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| 1. In Lyons Creek - One. -                      | \$ 10.00 |
| 2. In Duffins Creek, the Smith, and 3 others. - | 120.00   |
| 3. In the Rouge - (One) & One. -                | 30.00    |
| 4. In Miland Creek. - One                       | 10.00    |

Total, 170.00

On receiving Cheque, I will prepare and take receipts, and send them in to dept.

With due Respect,

I Have &c

John W. Kerr  
D.O.

Mr. Allister,  
F. F. F.  
Attaw.

Friday. 3. December 1875. -

At the Heights - and round by the Beach. Thomas Joice paid me \$5. license fee, - went out at 9. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. - Miles 26. \$44 B. \$3.00. M. Kerr with me tells \$, saw a box on the Heights in the Bay - heard Billy Hamilton - was in it. - - -

Copy - Collingwood, Dec: 2, 1875.

J. W. Kerr Esq  
Dear Sir,

After you left here, I used every means to get to the Christian Islands, but I could not get there the men from Gidleys bay came here the next day, after you left, they say, they have not violated the fishery's act, in any way, I do not believe them, but I cannot get any evidence to convict them, I thought I could make the men in the boat give their evidence, but my Lawyer tells me that I could not force them to give evidence that would convict themselves, if you have any reliable information I would go on with the case, I will write to the department to-day - asking them to send you here, neither the Seigneur or the other (Wepel) boats have got here yet. —

I remain Yrs respectfully,  
James Patton,

Read, copied, and submitted to the department, I do not reply to Mr Patton. — John W. Kerr,  
3, Dec: 1875. J. W.

Mr. Grasses  
Fishery Overseer,  
Penetanguishene or,  
Midland. —

On receipt proceed instantly to Gidleys Harbour, King Beach, where five boats from Collingwood, have been fishing during close season, note down all particulars, and report to department, at Ottawa. —

Straynor,  
24. Dec: 1875.

By Order, Del 394.  
John W. Kerr 554  
J. W.



"Confidential". -

Sir,

3. Dec: 1875. -

I have the honor to receive copy of James Ralston letter. (Patton I presume.) T. Overseer, Collingwood, referred to me for Confidential report. -

In reply. I had the honor to report the seizure of a Bar<sup>l</sup> of Trout, and I observed one Wh<sup>l</sup> fish in the barrel also, I seized the fish, on the 13<sup>th</sup> Nov: under the power invested in me by the Regulations hereto and Section 11, and Sub section 4, of Section 16, of the Fisheries Act. -

Also<sup>3</sup>. I and A. Port, shipped fish from Collingwood on the 11<sup>th</sup> November last, for Buffalo, which the American Express, at first refused. - W. Port, telegraphed Mr. Vicker - Toronto, on 12. November last, to forward them and he would be responsible for all damages, these fish were for Buffalo, and Galt - Port's telegraph, Reads black fish, went through - Why not mine, and Mr. Armstrong, Mr. Vicker - Agent, called on the American Express Coy - Toronto, to make enquiries also to this effect, I had this info from Mr. C. D. - who was present at the time.

There is no Credit due to Mr. Patton, why more fish were not shipped after the 11. of Nov: the fact of my seizure, and Vicker, and American Express boys being shut down wgt, receiving them after that date, upon my remonstrance accounts for it, and so determined were they on this head, and against me in the observance of the law, that three barrels remained in Toronto, under the surveillance of the Police there, that were a dead loss to the shipper Arthur Clark, so at least he told me on the 27 Nov: last, at Collingwood. - It would be more satisfactory, if Mr. Patton gave you all the names of the shippers. - Mr. Alex. Clark, fisherman (and other fishermen) at Collingwood, fishes four boats and more than 36,000 yards of gill nets, he fished up, on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November, and did not set out any more, till after the expiration of

of the close season. - So that you will please observe the flimsy excuse, given by Mr Patton, "on acct of the storm on the 7<sup>th</sup> instant, which took off some of their buoys" - is not tenable nor satisfactory; I really think that Mr Patton in all fairness when criticising me for seizing a barrel of fish at Galt - should have given all the names of the persons that he alludes to, thus! - "In all of these cases I found no intention of violating the fishery law, by any of the fishermen, and I gave them permission to grapple for their nets" - I consider it beyond his power to do this, it would be more satisfactory to send you their names in the first place, and ask for permission, for them to fish up. Mr P. - should also state the quantity of fish they caught, where they grappled up, and number of nets. -

Mr Patton, states, "One other case where one of the fishermen was sick, and could not get another man to go out in his place; I gave him liberty to get his nets, of which there was only one gang of his nets left out after the 12, instant." -

In reply to this paragraph, I consider Mr P. - had no power within himself even to do this; I am prepared to tell you who this man was, Mr Patton having declined to do so himself. It was neither more nor less, than his own brother-in-law, James Noble - the man alluded to as sick was Mr Storey. - - -

A gang of nets, is just 5 nets, of 600 yards each - equal 3,000 yards; - and 700 fish were caught therein, during this close season, this happened on the 13. of November, they were set out in front of Collingwood. - - In reply to the next paragraph - My just reply will explain this; -

I cannot however understand, why Mr Patton's inquisitiveness about me in asking so many questions about a barrel of fish, he gave Arthur Clark liberty to send to a Mr Barbara Clark of Galt. When the barrel I seized was not for Mr

Barbara Clark, at all. — but for Mr A. Clarke of Berlin, and re-addressed for Mr A. Clarke of Galt, and about which Mr Patton telegraphed, I gave Arthur Clark of Collingwood, permission to send Mrs Barbara Clark, Galt, when really and truly, this barrel of fish, I seized, confiscated and sold, as appears I was justified in doing, and sustained by you, was to all intents and purpose, another barrel of fish altogether, with which Mr Patton, does not, and has not yet connected himself at all;

What guess he attempted to raise about my barrel of fish. —

When I was in Collingwood, in conversation with Mr Patton, he was going to do wonders, and have Arthur Clark paid for his barrel of <sup>fresh</sup> fish, as that Mr Patton gave Clark permission to send to Mrs Barbara Clark, Galt. — I told Patton, I never saw that barrel at all. — Then Arthur Clark, got on his high horse, also, but before I left Collingwood, they came down from that high, and become more reconciled to me; and then it was that I heard of the fish sent by Express, that the American Express Co refused to receive at Toronto. —

I heard from Patton, Ben: Dempsey fished up during close season, I heard also from him that the fishermen at Meaford, and Thornberry fished up during close season, and had permission from the Department — Ottawa, to do so, and since I came home I heard from Mr Milne <sup>Meaford</sup> indirectly, they caught 7,000 fish, Gr and Wh: fish, which they salted down. —

Mr Patton, from beginning to end of his letter refers to a great many persons, but only calls one Mr Arthur Clark by name. —

I had just got this job when I received Mr Patton's letter herewith, announcing his



complete failure, to do anything, I had advised him. —

It is just as I expected. —

The address, card, I sent you a few days ago, found nailed on one end of the barrel, and the card now enclosed, I found, as the address, on the other end of the barrel of fish I seized, will I am sure prove to you that there is no Mrs Barbara Clark, fish dealer, of Galt, interested in my seizure, in any manner whatever. —

In conclusion, I strongly recommend that all those persons who violated the Fisheries Act, by fishing and fishing up, during close season, be prosecuted and fined for Contamination of the Fisheries Act. — As it does not appear to me any just cause of excuse, that the storm of the 7<sup>th</sup> of November last, could prevent fisherman from fishing up, on the 8, 9, 10, and 11<sup>th</sup> of November following. — There has been too much violating of the Act, during close season in Georgian bay, and it is about high time to put a final stop to it. —

I have therefore much pleasure in recommending this my report for your consideration.

With due respect

Hon: Minister

H. H. H.

Officer

I Have &c

John W. Kerr

D. A.

Telegraphs 1.75<sup>+</sup>

Postages 25.



Sir,

7. December 1875.

In order to carry out your instructions, the more effectually to me in reference to Mr. W. H. Grasse, Secretary of the Advisory Board, &c. Toronto. ---

It may become necessary for me to have a seine-hauled once or twice, made in B. bay, so as to procure choice specimens of hags, intended when set up, to be shown at Philadelphia Exhibition next year. ---

May I have your liberty to have this done under my own personal superintendence, should it become necessary to do so. ---

With due respect,

I Have &amp;c.

Johill Kerr  
J.D.

Hon. Minister

F. F. F.,  
Ottawa,

Monday, 12. Dec: 1875.

On B. Heights &c, saw Case - warned him and others to remove horses off the ice. - making other enquiries - &c. went out at 9, a.m. came in at 3. p.m., Miles 16, & B. 2.50<sup>4</sup>. C. J. Kerr, with me. ---

Tuesday, 7. Dec: 1875.

On B. beach to see Bob Hall, and J. H. Corey. - went out at 9, a.m. came in at 4.30, p.m., Miles 26, & B. 3.00, dinner 50<sup>4</sup>.

My dear Sir,

4. December 1875.

Your's duly received, the Silver Spray, and Nestle's, got into Owen Sound, on Tuesday the 30<sup>th</sup> of November - close season - Miller seized 1000 packages, and several boxes of fresh fish. -

The Seymour got in there on the 1<sup>st</sup> instant, but I have not heard any thing about her. -

If ordered by the Dept<sup>y</sup> Ottawa, I will come up, but not otherwise. -

Y<sup>rs</sup> Sincerely,

John W. Kerr

T.O.

James Patton Esq -

T.O.

Collingwood,

My dear Sir,

Your's received, and you will please find herewith a list of fishes that I think I can procure for the department. -

Mr. Horrell is away at Long Pt. Lake Erie, on his return, I will send you his prices for setting up. -

S. B. Prussek Esq

T. O. Dept<sup>y</sup>

Ottawa,

Your's very truly,

John W. Kerr

T.O., 6. Dec. 1875.

List of fishes I can procure.

Sturgeon - three species, Male & female.

Pike - Pickerel - three species - do.

Trout fish, White fish 3 species. -

Salmon trout: Various kinds. -

Ciscoes, (a trout), Muskonges

Walleye - four kinds, Speckled trout.

Mullet - buckers.

6. Dec. 1875.

John W. Kerr

T.O.

Stationery % of 2.50

Sir,

7, December 1875,

I have the honor to apply to you for a license for Mr. J. H. Lacey - fisherman at Burlington Beach to fish in Lake St. Clair, between the Light House, at the mouth of the Thames, and Stony Point, in the township of Elmhurst, west, and County of Essex. - - -

He will pay license fee ten dollars, for the privilege of fishing gill nets and spearing during the winter months; say to the 31<sup>st</sup> of March next. - - -

My great object now in bringing this application under your own immediate notice, and which I strongly recommend may meet your entire concurrence and approval, is; that choice specimens of pickerel, and muskies may be so much more easily procured, for the Philadelphia Exhibition, when it shall become necessary to carry out your Order in this behalf. - -

With due respect,

I Have &c

John W. Kerr  
S.O.

Hon. Ministers,  
Y. Y. Y.  
Ottawa,

Wednesday 8, December 1875,

At Toronto, to see Mr. Fraser, of the Advisory Board - Secretary - for Philadelphia Exhibition. - -

Had 1/2 an hour's consultation about procuring and curing fish for the same, went out at 8, a.m. -  
Came in at 7, p.m. Miles 90. H & B 3.50 Ry  
fare 2.60, dinner 25. -

Sir,

Dec: 1875.

I have the honor to renew my application for permission to speak in B. Bay, from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January next, and ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March 1876. -

This permission will be appreciated by a number of persons - thrown out of other employment, during the winter months, besides by our regular fishermen. -

The fee to be only one dollar. - I strongly recommend that this permission may be granted. -

With due respect,

Hon: Minister

H. F. F.

Thames,

I have &c

John W. Kerr

H. F.

9 December, Thursday 1875.

On B. beach, found all regular, made known to S. H. Corey, and Daniel McElwaine, that their fines were allowed to remain in abeyance, as guarantee for future good behaviour, went by town and returned the same way - went out at 9. A. M. came in at 5.30. P. M. miles 30. H. B. 3.00. dinner 50.

Sunday 12, Dec: 1875.

at the Heights - saw two boxes out on the ice, went out at 9. A. M. came in at 12. Noon, miles 12. H. B. 2.50 saw R. R. Waddell, Barrister, about W. J. Whitcher telegrams, of Kewal and Green's fine of \$50, and Costs, being remitted by the Hon: Minister - the Costs alone to be paid - Campbell's fine - being disposed of in a similar manner. - - -



My dear Sir:

I am in receipt of yours of the 10<sup>th</sup> inst. relating to all matters therein referred to, and with which I have been furnished by the Dept. Ottawa. ---

The same mail which conveyed to me your favour, I also had from the Hon. The Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa, his final instructions and advice to me about the investigation or enquiry pending the seizures of fish, illegally caught, and had in possession made by Mr. Miller overseer, at Owen Sound, in contravention of the Fisheries Act. ---

I shall leave here by first train on Monday for Toronto, and I will attend, and make the necessary enquiries you recommended while there, and fetch the result with me. ---

Except! to complete enquiries on my way at Col-  
lingwood with which it may be necessary to post  
you, I shall not delay on the Road, but will go  
right through by stage from Meaford. ---

With kind regards to Mr. Miller, Believe me,

Yours Very Respectfully,  
John W. Kent

J. W.

11. December 1875.

C. McFarquhar Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Barrister, &c. &c. &c.  
Owen Sound.

My dear Mr Barr

Will you be pleased to find the Stor: The Minister's decision in the cases against Dan<sup>y</sup> McJoyne - whom you prosecuted for the debt at my request. - -

I have made known to McJoyne, the Minister's decision, but at the same time I deem it advisable that our good friend the Police Magistrate should be apprised by you. -

I am off this morning for Collingwood, and Owen Sound,

Believe me, Yrs Very truly,  
John Barr Esq  
Solicitor, -  
Hamilton,

John W. Barr  
J. W.  
13, Dec 1875.

Monday, 12. Dec: 1875. - - -

At Toronto, and Collingwood, in obedience to Order from Mr White, went out at 8. A. M., came in at 10. P. M. - Miles 141. - St. and B. 3.50, making enquiry at Toronto, as per my report sent department, on 17<sup>th</sup> inst, Railway fare - 1.30 Toronto, and to Collingwood 2.95, dinner tea and bed \$1.00. Cab fare in Toronto making enquiry - as per Mr. Hayden letter, 1.50. - - -  
Total \$10.25

Tuesday, 14. December 1875. -

At Collingwood, Thornberry, and Meaford, and Owen Sound, as per Order of Mr White, Commissioner - Mr James Patton, accompanied me, was over and around town of Collingwood, before leaving for Owen Sound, went out at 12.30, P. M., came in at 10. P. M., Miles 50, Ry fare 1.50 - dinner 50, tea and bed 1.00, Stage fare 2.00. - - -  
Total 5.25.

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to find the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the  
Minister's decision in the case of the fine of \$20, and Costs, im-  
posed upon Dr. H. Corey - for whom you acted as counsel  
at the time, and are in possession of all the facts in the  
Case. . . .

Please apprise James Chiles Esq<sup>r</sup> J. P. our esteemed  
friend, and worthy P. Magistrate. . . .

I had a telegraph this evening from Mr. Whiteher  
directing me to see telegraphs he had sent you, and  
Mr. R. R. Waddell, which I understand disposes of the  
fines imposed upon Messrs<sup>r</sup> Kennel, Green and Campbell, -  
Mill Owner, 12 mile Creek. - The costs alone, I under-  
stand are only to be paid. . . .

I start on Monday next, for Toronto, Collingwood,  
and Owen Sound - to be absent, and busy there for a  
week or more, hence why I want you to look after  
the case in behalf of your Client, -

With much respect

Yrs<sup>ly</sup> Very Obediently,

John W. Kerr

J. O.

11. December 1875,

W. G. Chisholm Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Barrister. -  
Hamilton,

Wednesday. 15. Dec: 1875. -

at Owen Sound, disposed of three Cases there, as  
per my report of 14. instant, went out for Meaford  
at 5. p. m. came in at 10. p. m. Miles 21. Board for  
Patton, and self \$3.00, Stage fare 2.00. - \$1.00

Examined the five boxes of fresh fish, - - -  
Patton and Miller with me. took down the ad-  
dress on each box. . . .

Thursday, 16. December 1875. --

At Meaford, Collingwood, Toronto, and Hamilton, went out at 7. a.m., came in at 11. p.m., miles 164, By fare to Toronto, <sup>#</sup>3.60, and to Hamilton <sup>#</sup>1.30, Joe Patton to Collingwood <sup>#</sup>. Breakfast, dinner and tea <sup>#</sup>1.25. - Cab hire <sup>#</sup>2.00. --

Sunday 19. Dec. 1875.

At Jagers - went out at 9.30. a.m., came in at 12.30 p.m., miles 6. 44 Ps. <sup>#</sup>2.00

Sat. -- 24. Dec. 1875.

With reference to my application of the 4<sup>th</sup> instant, to you, for permission to spear fish in B. Bay from 1<sup>st</sup> day of January, to the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March 1876. --

I hope you will be pleased to excuse me for again asking that this permission may be granted. There is a good deal of dislike amongst some of the people, who have heretofore enjoyed this privilege. --

Today! - I met Mr A. B. Wood, M. P., and we talked about this speaking, when I told him, I expected it before 1<sup>st</sup> of January. --

I strongly recommend that you will be pleased to grant the permission at once. --

I Have &c.

Hon. Minister,

John W. Lewis

H. H. H.

H. H.

Officer.



Monday, 20. December 1875.-

at Toronto, Pt. Union and Frenchman Bay. - gave  
Moses Smith 12<sup>0</sup>, thence to Frenchman Bay from Def.  
Jus Creek. - and back to Pt. Union, getting up my  
returning went out at 8. a. m. came in at 8. p. m.  
Miles 90. St & B: 1.50. Railway fare 2.30. St & Cutter  
2.00 - dinner tea and 1.50 - 7<sup>0</sup>

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 1875.-

at Pt. Union, Gates Highway, Scarborough Junction  
Toronto, Leslieville and Hamilton. - gave Joe  
Gloom 40. - Joe Salmon protection. - went out  
at 7. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. Miles 70. -  
St & Cutter 2.50, tolls 10. Breakfast, dinner 60.  
St & B: 2.00. - Ry fare 1.30 - 7<sup>0</sup> 6.50.

Wednesday 22. Dec: 1875.

Sus. Bridge, & Port Erie: Ry fare 2.75.  
Jury & Street Car, 18. dinner 25, tea and bed 50.  
Ry fare from Port Erie to Niagara \$1.00  
went out at 9. a. m. came in at 9. p. m.  
Miles 110. St & B: 2.00

Thursday 23. Dec: 1875.-

at Niagara, Queenston, S. Bridge and  
Hamilton, getting up my return, went out  
at 10. a. m. came in at 7. p. m. Miles 64.  
Ry fare 1.75. St & B: 2.00. Breakfast and  
dinner 50. 7<sup>0</sup> 6.25.

Sir,

24. Dec. 1875.

I have the honor to apply to you for a license of the fisheries in the Niagara River at Fort Erie, for the year 1876, at the rate of \$50 - for the year. -

The license limits to be the same as last year; -

This license is to be granted to Mr. George Stutton, of Fort Erie, for 1876, who, from adverse circumstances left last summer for Bay City - Michigan, but again returned leaving his sickly wife and seven children in Bay City, until he by industry in fishing can procure money to take them back to Fort Erie again.

A couple of friends in Fort Erie, will advance him money to pay his license fee, and start fishing again.

Stutton before he left last summer, gave up all his fishing rig and license to Mr. John Poulas, a Baker in Fort Erie, to whom he was indebted, and who with your sanction is fishing out George Stutton's license for this current year. -

I recommend that you will be pleased to grant at once, Mr. Geo. Stutton, the license for year 1876. - for the same fishing limits, &c. as he held last year. - With due respect

I Have &amp;c

John W. Stutton

J. W.

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.

Ottawa,

Saturday 25 Dec 1875

On B. B. getting up returning. 144 B. and dinner for self & son and horse feed 3.50, miles 24, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 3.30 p. m. =

Tuesday 28. Dec 1875.

Getting up returning. on B. B. and the Bay - went out at 9. a. m. came in 4. p. m. miles 26. 144 B. 3.00.

"Confidential?"

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of yours of the 16<sup>th</sup> instant to me, and for which I thank you. -- You will please get from Mr James J. Robertson, the dates on which he received on Board his Steamer, all the different packages of fish, which he took into Owen Sound, and sent forward by the Railway addressed to the firms - Merchants there, besides those kept in Owen Sound addressed to Henry Kennedy; be very accurate in doing this, because I have to trace all the fish to the source from which they just came, with dates &c. -- You only ask for 25 packages for Lecky & Co., while I find in Mr McFeyden's letter <sup>pkgs</sup> 138. -- please ask for this discrepancy. --

Then as regards Mr Lewis Smith - don't take any notice of him until I come up again. --

With respect to Edward Stewart, Master, James Andrew, Mate, Volery St. Hill - dealer, and 14 other Sailors - all hands on Board the Kestrel. -- I shall prosecute them every one. -- Are they residents in Owen Sound, please let me know! --

Please tell Mr McFeyden, that I have nothing in app'n for him in Meaford and Collingwood. I do not intend to get these until about the 4<sup>th</sup> of January next; please ask him if this will meet his approval, and you may show him this note.

With my Kind respects.

E. J. Milnes Esq.

Yrs Sincerely,

John W. Kerr Esq.

20. Dec 1875

Sir,

31. December 1875.

I have the honor to send you, Bank cheque No: 79, for fifty dollars. - - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows; for this current year. - - -

1. John Wadsworth, for license to fish in the Niagara River, at Queenston - for year 1875. 10.00
  2. Joseph Gabriel, do, do, do, 5.00
  3. Joe Black, Seining license to fish in Lake Ontario, at Frenchmans bay - for do. 10.00
  4. Thomas Loebe, license to fish in Lake Ontario, at Pt. Bel during the year 1875, in full. 5.00
  5. Francis Portwine, license to fish gill nets in Lake Ontario, at Yates gulley, for year 1875. 5.00
- The licenses for the above have been already delivered. - - -
6. Richard Gilbert - for licenses to fish in the 20. mile ponds and Lake Ontario for year 1876. - the same as last year. 15.00
- 50.00

Please send me Gilberts licenses. -

With due respect,

I have &c.

John W. Kent

R.O.

Hon: Minister  
H. H. H.

Ottawa.

Postages 1.00.  
Box 1.50



Memorandum for J. W. Miller Esq. & Owen Sound  
 Please find herewith, Hine's Convention, two No. 1,  
 two No. 2, two No. 3, and Nos. 4, 5 and 6, Read  
 over each carefully - sign and return me at once  
 I have just mailed copies of all our investiga-  
 tion at Collingwood to Ottawa,

Hamilton,

11, January 1876.

Yrs sincerely

John W. Kerr  
 J. W.

Immediate,

My dear Sir

I have received your letter  
 in due time. - And on yesterday, I received  
 the License from the Department of Marine and Fisheries  
 Ottawa - of the Fisheries, in the Niagara River, at  
 Fort Erie, for Mr. George Hutton for this current  
 year of 1876. - On receipt of this, he is em-  
 powered to resume possession of the grounds,

Please tell him to send me the

Rent - 50, at Once. - And Oblige

Wm. Hall Esq.

Fort Erie, -

Yrs Truly

22 January 1876.

John W. Kerr

J. W.

P.S. - I heard Mr. John Poulas, has been fishing  
 along, since the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, he had no au-  
 thority to do this - as his temporary authority un-  
 der Hutton's license of 1875, expired on the 31<sup>st</sup> of  
 December last 1875, Hutton has a prior claim to  
 all others.

John W. Kerr  
 J. W.

Sir,

18. January 1876,

I have the honor to submit for your perusal, and Consideration, a letter, I this day received from Mr. Francis Stock, a licensed fisherman, of several years standing, on the River Thames, who represents as you will please observe that Mr. G. McKee - fishery Overseer - Wallasebury, is endeavoring to take his fishing ground from him, and give it to the Owners of lot No. 2, on the Thames River. Dover Ness and in which it also appears my name is used in that direction. - - -

I know Mr. Stock very well, he is a Frenchman and I found him very useful on three different occasions, you were pleased to send me to the River Thames - below Chatham. -

A public Road is on each side of the River Thames, where this fishery is situated, and I strongly recommend, that you will never allow Mr. G. McKee, to take this fishery from Mr. Stock, under any pretence whatever, so long as he obeys the law, because of his good disposition to the Fisheries Act, and Fisheries Dept. Ottawa,

I have the Honor,

Y. Y. Y.

John McKee

J. O.

W. J. Whitaker Esq.,  
Commissioner of Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

Private and Confidential, -

6: McFarlane Esq  
Barrister -

Queen's Sound

My dear Sir,

What day early/  
next week, can you, and Mr Geo. S. Miller, Esq., Queen's Sound, meet me at Meaford again? -

I have just had a letter from there today, that on enquiry will lay all the contraventions of the Fisheries Act, bare and naked. -

I shall particularly require you in your professional capacity. - - I expected what is now coming; and at the same time, have to congratulate you, Mr Miller, and myself, that I have done nothing in the Meaford case, beyond what you are witness to, yourself. - - I don't think it advisable to call on Mr James Patton! - Miller, you, and I can manage everything ourselves. - Caution Miller, and warn him not to write nor telegraph to any person in Meaford that we are coming there. - -

I thought perhaps Tuesday or Wednesday next I would meet you, by first train on the St. J. for Toronto. And you could so fix it, to be there about the same time by a private conveyance, say not a word to a soul about it, I am justified in saying, He. He. He.

With Kind regards

Hamilton, Onto

18. January 1876.

Yrs Respectfully,

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Please answer immediately and name your day.

Yrs

J. W. Kerr

# Wednesday, 5. January 1876. -

At Toronto, and Collingwood - saw Patton - on my arrival there, dinner, tea and bed \$1.10<sup>4</sup>. Railway fare to Toronto, <sup>#</sup> 7.30<sup>4</sup>. -  
 Ry fare Toronto to Collingwood - <sup>#</sup> 2.90<sup>4</sup> - miles 140. - At B! 1.50<sup>4</sup>. - - -

# Thursday, 6. January 1876. -

At Collingwood, and Meaford and back - went out at 1. p.m. came back at 4. p.m. - miles about 50, Ry. - 1.30<sup>4</sup>. - Held Court of <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Robert Doherty, and others - see my report, proceedings, and convictions in these cases - sent the department on the day of January 1876. - Breakfast, dinner tea and bed \$1.00<sup>4</sup>, Sundries <sup>4</sup>/<sub>50</sub>, Mr McFayden

# Friday 7. January 1876. -

At Collingwood, and Meaford - making enquiry into the contraventions of the Fisheries Act, - had seven fishermen, and a gill net, omitted over through haste of Patton J. G. G. who before George Williamson - was called and heard. - adjourned the Court - gave no decision - trusted to something more substantial coming to light - went out at 1. o'clock, came in at 2. p.m. - miles 25, Breakfast dinner tea and bed <sup>#</sup> 1.50<sup>4</sup>, Railway fare <sup>4</sup>/<sub>65</sub>. - - -

# Saturday 8. January 1876. -

At Meaford, Collingwood - Allandale. Toronto, and Hamilton. - Mr McFayden came as far as first station beyond Collingwood - went out at 7. a.m. arrived at Hamilton - at 5.30 p.m. - mile 164. - Ry fare <sup>#</sup> 3.65<sup>4</sup> Hamilton R. fare <sup>#</sup> 1.30<sup>4</sup> breakfast dinner and tea, &c, <sup>#</sup> 1.25<sup>4</sup>, <sup>#</sup> 6.20<sup>4</sup>



Mr. Kerr,

Ottawa, 27, January 1876. —

What is the meaning of ( Mr. Bauset, )  
this? —

Please return Johnsons

letter with your remarks.

S. R. B.

Please refer to application

No: 2. of my letter to the Hon<sup>ble</sup>

the Minister, dated 13. May 1875. —

which will I hope satisfactorily

explain what Mr. Richard Johnsons

application to Mr. Mitchell is about. —

Yrs Respectfully

John W. Kerr

St. Quebec.

Hamilton, Onto

29, January 1876,

Mr. Mitchell

24 January 1876.

Sir, I sent five dollars on the tenth day of May 1875, in the case of Peter Price to Mr. Kerr to be applied on my fishing license, I should like to know whether you have received it.

Mr. Price has wrote Mr. Kerr, and he has got no answer, will you please to answer this immediately for Mr. Backhouse the Overseer of fishery wants to make his returns. —

And you will oblige me.

R. L. Johnson,

Forestville P. O.,

Mr. Bauset,

I received the \$5, referred to sent it per draft No: 16. on 13, May 1875. — Can't see what it has to do with John a Backhouse return. —

Yrs

John W. Kerr

St. Q.

29, January 1876,

My dear Grace

Please tell Hutton - to send me the rent at once - Nelson Greyth has written me a very impudent letter. Threatening all sort of things so let the \$50, be sent me at once. -

I have the license here in my possession for Hutton. -

Yrs Truly

John W. D. S.

P.O.

4, Feb 1876, - -

W. Hall Esq  
Port Line

# Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> February 1876. -

At Toronto, on my way to Meaford - all night went out at 8, a.m. came in at 1, p.m. miles 48. - Ryf gave 1.30, dinner, tea and bed \$1.00, S & B, 1.50. - - -

# Wednesday - 2<sup>d</sup> February 1876. -

At Toronto, Allandale, Collingwood, and Meaford - took admission from George Williamson, saw McFarlane, and J. G. Miller - James Stallock was away in Kincardine - went out at 7, a.m. came in 2, p.m. - miles 125, Ryf gave 3.50, breakfast 25, dinner 35, tea and bed 50. - - Total 4.60

# Thursday - 3<sup>d</sup> February 1876. -

At Meaford, Collingwood, Allandale, and Toronto - went out at 7, a.m. came in 3.40, miles 125, breakfast, dinner, tea and bed \$1.00, Telegraph 25, Ryf gave 3.50.

# Friday. 4. February 1876. -

At Toronto, and Hamilton - went out at 7, a.m. came in at 11, a.m. miles 48, Ryf 1.30, breakfast 25, S & B, 30.

set.

4. February 1876. -

I have the honor to submit for your perusal, pending further proceedings, still to be taken by me, against Mr. James Miller - fish dealer - Meaford - on Georgian bay - who is complained of by James Hallock - fisherman - Meaford, for buying fresh white fish, and Salmon Trout, and having the same in his possession, during the close season last November, in contravention of the Fisheries Act. find copy of Hallock's letter No: 10, herewith. . . .

The statements, and admissions made by the fishermen of Meaford, numbered from 1. to 10, herewith, will inform you, that nineteen fishermen including two fish dealers, have been complained of, for fishing for, catching, and killing, buying, and selling wh: fish, and Salmon Trout, and having the same in their possession, during close season, last November, at Meaford. . . .

You will please find that 5766, White fish, and S. Trout, were caught by the fishermen, at Meaford, who admit the same in their statements, but say! that they had leave from Mr. James Patton - fishing Overseer, - Collingwood, to fish up. - Mr Patton's statement you will also please find herewith, No: 8. . . .

I find nothing in the Fisheries Act, or regulations, to justify Mr James Patton, in the course he has thought fit to pursue in these cases, and a rigid enquiry to the end will prove to you all this. . . .

Mr Miller, McFayden, the Marriester, and I, have discovered too many contraventions of the Fisheries Act. committed in almost all parts of the In bay, during close season last November, to allow these cases now pending, after consulting personally with Mr McFayden and Miller, I have come to the conclusion of sending you all the

information now in my possession, and ask for further instruction.

James Stalleck's letter, cannot be misunderstood and when coupled with James Holmes, own statement is very plain and clear in my mind, besides I believe there is a great deal more behind the scenes . . . .

Will you please read over these documents and return them to me with your advice, and Oblige . .

W. J. Whiteley Esq  
Commissioner of Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr  
T.O.

P.S. - Mr James Stalleck, is at present in  
Kincardine . . . .

Yours

J. W. Kerr

T.O.

Sir,

7. February 1876. -

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank Cheque No: 120, for the sum of fifty dollars, which you will please apply on license issued by you to Mr George Sutton - of Port Erie - Fisherman, on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of January last, for the fisheries in the Niagara River - at that place for this current year.

Hon: Minister,

&c. &c. &c.

Ottawa,

I Have, &c.

John W. Kerr

T.O.



Sir,

9. February 1876,

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque No. 125, for the sum of thirty dollars. . . .

This amount you will apply as license fee for Messrs. H. G. Mirely, and Wm. A. Havelle, of Burlington beach, for this current year &c. viz. No. 1. Containing fishing stations, Nos. 1. and 2, in Burlington bay, containing 18. chains bay frontage for seine hauling, in the spring of the year only, for rough fish, - the same being on B. beach, bay. for a term of two years, from 1<sup>st</sup> of January last, at per year 10. \$ 20.00,

" 2. - License - for fishing stations Nos. 18, and 19. - in Lake Ontario, - containing 20. chains lake frontage, for seine hauling for Herring, and for Herring gill nets, all the year round, bay for a term of one year, from 1<sup>st</sup> of January last, the same being on B. beach 10.00

Total, \$ 20.00

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa,

I Have &c.  
John W. Kerr  
S.O.

My dear Sir,

I sent your license for the 20 mile pond, and Creek, I did not yet receive your license for the Lake. I will have to defer my application for the 15, and 10, until after I pay a visit to St Catharines. If you hear of any infraction of the fishing act, - please let me hear from you at once. -

Yrs sincerely

John W. Kerr

S. O.

Mr. Geo. Gilbert  
Fisherman,

Londan - P. O.

7. Feb. 1876. -

\* - Saturday, 12. February 1876. -

At the Steights. to count the fish houses set on the Ice, went out at 2.30 p.m. came in at 5. p.m. Miles 8, St. 4 P. 2.00, heard that persons were trapping rats in the Dundas Marsh, - and had cut open the rat houses and set their traps there which is against the game law act. - - -

\* Sunday, 13 Feb. 1876. -

At the Steights, and the Dundas Marsh - to see if persons were out fishing in boxes - met Mr. Mackery, and saw Mr. Forsythe at Fred's, Morrisons, - went up Dundas Road - as far as saw Mr. Forsythe's farm - had houses examined - found them cut open, and set sticks therein - saw person on the Marsh - heard, Christopher Case, Albert Lyons - Dan Young - and - McJowan son of the Butcher had cut open the house set traps & caught the rats therein - went out at 9. a.m. came in at 3. p.m. Miles 20, St. 4 P. 3.00, - C. J. Kerr with me. -

"Immediate"

D. McGwynne vs. J. H. Corey.  
8. February 1876.

Sir,

With reference to my application the 3<sup>rd</sup> and your adjudication thereon, dated 7<sup>th</sup> December 1875. - "Copies herewith" - which decision was immediately communicated by W. B. Schisholm - Barrister, atty for J. H. Corey - to James Cahill - the Police Magistrate Hamilton - before whom the case was tried. - - - And who at that time appeared perfectly satisfied with the Ministers decision - as the Minister, has full power under sub section 4. of Section 16. of the Fisheries Act, in this case. - - -

Such decision being all that was necessary, and as a security to J. H. Corey - he did not enter his appeal, and so the matter rested until yesterday - when James Cahill Esq. J. P. at the instance of Dan. McGwynne, the informer - "So Corey told me" - if - sued a distress warrant, for £20, fine and 16 costs, against the goods and chattels of J. H. Corey, for the offence committed, that you were pleased to consent should (the fine) be held in abeyance as a guarantee for future good behaviour. - - -

McNair, Mr. Cahill - Special Constable finding no goods nor chattels of Corey on which to levy then obtained a Warrant of Commitment, for the body of J. H. Corey, - for non-payment of this fine already disposed of by the Minister. - Corey was arrested by McNair - today, but on paying £10.30, and D. B. C. - giving his security for the balance, he was permitted to be at large, until Saturday next, and as Mr. C. advised, so that I might in the mean time communicate these facts to you; If the Ministers decision is to be treated with Contempt in this way. -

some steps should be taken immediately, to make his decision in this, and all other similar cases, both permanent, and be respected. --

please give your decision at once and oblige  
 W. J. Whitaker Esq  
 Commissioner of  
 Fisheries - Ottawa,  
 I have &c,  
 I should have  
 D. O.

P.S. -

I have no doubt on my mind but that the  
 Saw Mill Owners, of 12 mile Creek, will be dealt  
 with in a similar manner - if you don't stop it. -

J. W. Kerr  
 D. O.

Wrote Mr P. Gray - Toronto, 3¢ postage  
 and Abram S. Webb, Beamsville, 3¢ do.  
 the 10<sup>th</sup> of March 1876. - and Jas: S. Miller D.O.  
 the same day. - 3¢

My dear Sir

I am in receipt of your letter of the  
 6<sup>th</sup> instant, and I thank you for letting me know  
 of your return from Kincardine to Meaford. -

On receipt of your former letter, I went up to  
 Meaford to find you at Kincardine -

please write, and give in full all par-  
 ticulars to which you now refer, and oblige

Yours sincerely

Johul Kerr  
 D. O.

Mr James B. Mallock,  
 Fisherman  
 Meaford, P. Office.

Hamilton, Onto  
 8. March 1876



"Special Report".

Sir,

22<sup>d</sup> January 1876.

It appears by the enclosed copy of license, that Isle of Coves - fishery - was licensed during the last season to Mr George W. Brighton and Sons, - Merchants of Queenstown, - for the sum of thirty five dollars. . . .

The Messrs Brighton, who are merchants, and have never been fishermen - sublet these fisheries last year to the Meaford, Cape Rich, and other fishermen, amounting to 18 boats, at 10<sup>/-</sup> per boat, receiving in all 180, for the year 1875 - from which please deduct the nominal fee 35, paid the Department, and a handsome <sup>profit</sup> balance of 145, goes to the Messrs Brighton by this simple transaction. . . .

This Island, altho near the Mainland - "Bury Harbour" - is in the Abreys division, but being so near the Mainland - it ought to be in the Geo. S. Muller's division, - but this is not the only object I have at present in view, in now writing to you about the Isle of Coves. . .

I recommend that you will be pleased to put a final stop to this monopoly, and be pleased to give boat licenses direct to each of the Meaford, Cape Rich and other fishermen - to the number of 18 boats, who desire to fish there this season. . . .

I make this application at the request of the Meaford, Cape Rich, and other fishermen, and in the interest of the fisheries, and I strongly recommend the matter for your favourable decision. . . .

Personally, I have no motive in view, beyond a desire to see the Georgian bay fisheries better managed, giving satisfaction to the Department, and all other persons interested in the good management of the fisheries - by putting down a monopoly - as this is, of recent growth, just started into existence. . . .

J. Whitcher Esq

Commissioner of Fisheries.

Attest

Mr. McFayden, Barrister - Queen's Bench, and Messrs. Miller and Patton, Fishery officers, and I, talked this case over, and we decided, I was to write you on the subject, so having an old blank form of license, I have procured the copy of the Messrs. J. R. Lighthouse and Sons, - license of 1875, for your information.

To grant this application in favour of the fishermen, for whom I apply, will give general satisfaction, in case you grant their application.

My understanding with the fishermen was, that they will pay the department direct, the 10<sup>th</sup> for each boat license.

Pardon me for trespassing on you at such length.

W. J. Whiteley Esq.  
H. H. H.

Obbama.

I Have &c.

John W. Kent

D. O.

10. March 1876,

"Important."

31<sup>st</sup> January 1876.

Sir,

With reference to the annexed resolution passed at a meeting held in Dundas - on Saturday the 29<sup>th</sup> instant, and which I attended by invitation, by the Land Owners, resident on the north, and South of Dundas Marsh, and by influential persons of Dundas, including Doctor James M. Mahon, M.P., for the North Riding of Wentworth. - -

I have the honor to report for your information that the reason why action is again taken in this matter is owing to Messrs. John and Henry Semmens of this City, with Mr. Colclough of the Peace for this County, in their behalf having about ten days ago, gone to the Crown Land Department - Toronto, and again attempted to get a patent of the said Marsh, for John and Henry Semmens. - -

Dr. James M. Mahon - M.P., prevented this taking effect, for the time being, and as your letter to the Local Govt. Toronto, of about a year ago, came up, then and there, being read and referred to, I have been requested by the meeting to send the copy of resolution herewith to you, and respectfully solicit your kind interference again, in behalf of the citizens of Hamilton jointly, with Dundas, and the other Land Owners, surrounding the marsh; as a very large proportion of the marsh - is in front - west and north of the Western boundary of the City. - - -

Please refer to my letters of 11. December 1874, and 12. February 1875 - on the subject.

I hope you will consider that the time has arrived, when something permanently should be done, and done at once in the interest of the public and the fisheries, and <sup>as</sup> regard the final disposal of this Dundas Marsh. - -

I Have &c

W. F. Whitches Esq  
H.

John W. Stens  
D.O.

ser

2, March 1876,

I have the honor to submit for your consideration and approval my diary and petty expenses for the quarter ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 1875, as follows:

By Account, and Diary,	175.75,
Vouchers - No. 1. Telegraphs,	5.24,
" " 2, Postages &c,	4.14,
" " 3, Stationery, -	4.60,
" " 4, Fox Satchel,	6.00,
" " 5, Office Rent,	5.00,
" " 6, Two Boatmen, -	20.00,
Totals, 2127 Miles,	\$ 220,734

Will you please observe that I travelled during the quarter referred to, 2127 Miles. --

With due respect I have &c

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa,

John W. Kent  
H. O.

Friday, 3, March 1876. --

On B. bay - at the Heights, Carrolls point, and at Brown's Wharf, found all right, James Smith, Jerry Hudson, Nicholas Grayley, - Richard Nicholson - and George Morgan - were at the Heights - they have not yet paid \$1. license fee - spearing very bad - water is very muddy. - John Reid - was spearing at Brown's Wharf, he had two Herrings - he has not paid me yet. Went out at 8. A. M. Came in at 2.30. P. M. Miles 20. Staid sleigh 2.50 toll 8¢. -

Sunday, 5, March 1876,

On B. beach. found all regular. went out at 1. P. M. came in at 5.30. P. M. Miles 14. Staid sleigh 2.50. --



Mr Thomas Elliott  
Niagara. -

Hamilton, Onto  
4, March 1876. -

My dear Sir,

I have just received your letter, please send me <sup>Mr</sup> Longhurst, and Robinson's ten dollars, and I will at once send to Ottawa; and get up from there the license for them, described as you recommended. - - -

Also please send me the name and three dollars, for this year of that small fishery you refer to, in the River; give a fair description of this fishery - so that I may send it down, and get up this license for you. - - -

I shall soon have to go up, to Meaford, on the Georgian bay, again. - We are all well, thank you, and with kind regards to Mr Elliott, your mother and the girls - Believe - Yrs Sincerely, -

John W Kent  
4, March 1876.

My dear Sir,

Your letter of 2, instant, is just received, please send me ten dollars, and I will send to Ottawa at once, and get up your license. -

George Marks, and every one else at the bay, must pay, before they commence to fish, and so have this license on hand. - Many thanks for what you tell me in your letter, about that other matter; Tell me more, when you write again. -

Yrs Sincerely  
John W Kent  
O. O.

Mr Wm McLeod  
Fisherman.

Frenchman bay.

4, March 1876.

Postage 30c,

Sir,

21. February 1876. -

In answer to your enquiries just made in your letter of the 16<sup>th</sup> instant, thus: Please explain the reason of the changes in the issue of these licenses, and state why! they are not given the same as last year, &c., &c. -

I have the honor to report that Messrs H. J. Birch, and Wm A. Havill, are now sole proprietors of the Ocean House, a Commodious Building erected on the Canal Reserve B. beach, on the site formerly occupied by Mrs Joan Baldry's house, who received from them \$1800 dollars, for her right there of occupation. - They are now to pay the Board of Works, Ottawa, under lease just recently obtained \$100. per year. -

They require the license for two years, for erecting boat houses on Stations Nos 1, and 2, B. bay - so as to keep a large supply of boats on hand for angling purposes in connection with their house, which they opened last season as a summer resort. -

Charles Abraham, who was the original purchaser with H. J. Birch, from Mrs Baldry; - he sold his interest to Messrs Young, and Wm A. Deville. - Young sold to Messrs H. J. Birch, and Wm A. Deville, - who jointly built the Ocean House. - They have expended 15,000. in building and furnishing, besides \$800, in making a road to it, on the sandy beach, and have just commenced another house but it is not on the Canal Reserve, that will cost 5,000. more; - I explained to Mr H. J. Birch, that licenses were only issued annually. -

My submitting this matter to you, in the first place, is in itself a recommendation for the issue of the license for stations Nos 1, and 2 - B. bay - but otherwise I did not urge, nor recommend. -

You will please observe that the fishing carried on, on these is limited to a short period during each spring time of the year. -

With due respect

Wm. A. Havill

I have &c. John H. K.

P.S. - If you don't approve, Mr. Buckley says, it will make no difference whatever! and you can issue the licenses the same as last year, to Messrs <sup>3</sup> Mr. J. Buckley and Mr. A. Jewell only, and I can refund the <sup>#</sup>10.00 dollars

John W. How

T.O.

Sir,

9, March 1876.

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank Cheque No. 162, for <sup>#</sup>13.00 dollars. - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for this current year as follows: -

1. - Messrs James Longhurst, and James Robinson for license for seine hauling in Niagara River, commencing at Black Horse Tavern point, thence down the River to a point known as the half moon battery, to extend out to mid Channel. - the same being in the town and township of Niagara, the amount herewith, is the same as last year, <sup>#</sup>10.00.

2, Mr John M. Alford, a seine license to fish in the Niagara River, between the half moon battery, and the south east side of the entrance to the Niagara River dock, the same being in the town of Niagara, this is a new license.

3.00

Total, \$ 13.00

Respectfully Submitted and Recommended:

I Have to  
John W. How  
T.O.

Hon. Minister  
7. 4. 9.

Chawwa.

Sir,

10. March 1876. -

I have the honor to apply to you for boat license, for Messrs Patrick and John Staud, fishermen of Winona, and Grimsby - to fish gill nets in Lake Ontario, between Grimsby, and Winona, during this current year, at the Annual Rent of 20. for both; and the license to be made out the same as last year. - - -

In applying for Messrs H. F. Bivins and Wm. A. Licenses, on Burlington Beach, which I have received, I overpaid you a sum of \$10. Will you be pleased to give the Messrs John and Patrick Staud, credit for this amount, as received on their license. - - -

Please send me license at once for them. - With due respect,

I have &c.

John W. Kent

J. W.

Hon. Minister,  
H. F. H.,  
Ottawa.

Wrote Mr. Bausch  
about James B. Hallcock of  
Heaford. - - -



Sir,

13. March 1876.

With reference to my report to you dated the 4<sup>th</sup> of February last, and its enclosures, submitted for your consideration, and advice, but which you have not yet advised me on, - I have now the honor to send you copy of another letter, received from Mr James B. Stallock - fisherman, and Steam Tug Buns - Meaford - and as I expect daily to receive from Stallock - all particulars in full, would beg respectfully to ask you if you have anything further to recommend about these contraventions of the Fisheries Act, committed by the fishermen of Meaford, during close season for White Fish and Salmon Trout, last November, in the Georgian bay. -

I purpose when I again hear from Stallock, to go up to Meaford, and with Mr Charles McLayden Barrister, and Mr Geo. S. Miller, Fishing Quaffer. To finish up these contraventions of the Fisheries Act. - please answer at once. -

With due respect,

I Have &amp;c,

John W. Kerr  
J. W.The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister,

H. H. H. Ottawa,

Sir,

13. March 1876.

I have the honor to report for your information, that I deem it advisable to recommend that permission may be granted by you to farmers to catch mullets and suckers coarse fish - this spring for their own use, in small creeks and rivulets of my division, where licenses are never issued, by you for to fish in; and that poor people who desire the same privilege may have your sanction also, during the run of these fish - free of charge, and for family use. - Almost every running stream, even temporary streams abound with suckers and mullets every spring.

With much respect, I recommend the.

Hon: Minister

H. H. H.

Ottawa,

I Have &c.

John W. Kent

H. C.

Saturday 12, March 1876. -

at Police Court - Christopher Case fined ten dollars, and costs <sup>#</sup> 4.50, - for destroying Muskrat houses last February last past - and Albert Lyons who was charged with the same offence - had the case adjourned to the 25 of March - went out at 9 a.m. came in at 3 p.m. Miles 8. <sup>#</sup> 1.50, -

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your application for a license to fish pike gill nets - in the waters of the Island - Toronto. At present there is no place vacant there, every place being already occupied under license by the Messrs David Ward, Billy Ward - and Patrick Gray. . . .

Last year before your father disposed of his nets, he, to Billy Ward, I wished him to give them to you. -

With regard to your building a house on the west shore of the fishing reserve, that is a matter that also rests with David Ward, Billy Ward, and Patrick Gray - they are all powerful, and I will have to see them on the subject, also the place, if you get the sanction of the fishing department - Ottawa - where you intend building a house. . .

One thing is certain, I may here tell you, that before you can begin to build a house, on any part of the fishing reserve - Toronto, Island. you will have to become a licensed fisherman. I will come down as soon as the spring opens, and will then see you on this matter. . . .

As regard - the fishing for blue back Sterring next fall - there is plenty of time still a head - to talk, and arrange for a license to fish for them. - But as I have already said, all will depend upon David and Billy Ward, and Patrick Gray. I must have their consent first. -

Yours truly,  
James Furman,  
The Island.  
Toronto.

Yours truly,  
John W. Kent

12 March 1870.

Ser.

13. March 1876.

I have the honor to report, and recommend for your Consideration, that the time has arrived, when pike gill nets, the property of the usual number of fifteen fishermen may be permitted by license, to be fished in that portion of B. bay, lying east, and south of a line drawn from the line fence between Starvey, and Grants farms, in Barton, and Martin's wharf, on Burlington Beach; The same to commence on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March, and to terminate about the 20<sup>th</sup> of April next. ---

Please send me fifteen blank copies of boat licenses, to fill up; I will endeavour to collect the money today, and send it to you. ---

Fish from our lakes, were never so scarce as they are at present. The ice in the bay is beginning to move. ---

I Have &c.

John W. Kent  
D. O.

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa,

Postages 25¢ + foolscap paper 25¢  
Envelopes 15¢ ---

Monday. 13. March 1876. ---

At B. beach, to ascertain from the fishermen, who were going to fish for pike in B. bay - got all the names, and quantity of nets in yards each was to fish. It was a dreadful day. - went out at 8.30. a.m. came in at 5.30. p.m. miles 26. 84¢ B. 2.50. tolls 5¢ dinner 50¢. -



Tuesday, 14. March 1876.

At the Straights made enquiry about illegal fishing in B. Bay. and Dundas Marsh, about the Straights - went out at 3. p.m. came in at 6.30. p.m. - Miles 8. -  
 1876 1875 1.50

Sir,

16. March 1876.

I have the honor to submit for your consideration, and approval, an application from Mr Wm Ward - a fisherman on Toronto Island - for permission to build a House on the fishery Reserve, <sup>there</sup> for to reside in. - - -

Mr Ward got married early last year, and last fall, mentioned to me it was his wish to build a House on the Reserve for himself and wife to live in. - - -

Mr Geo. Durman - Light House - Keeper - I. Island, gave up fishing, and Mr Wm Ward, having purchased a considerable portion of his fishing gear, will now take Mr Geo. Durman's place as a fisherman in his own proper person - David Ward and Patrick Gray, will still carry on fishing there, so that you will please observe the application does not increase the fixed number of the Toronto<sup>Island</sup> licensed fishermen. - - -

I may say in behalf of Mr Wm Ward, that <sup>he</sup> is deserving of this indulgence not only as a fisherman but as a most courageous fisherman, who has repeatedly again and again saved the lives of a great many ship wrecked mariners on Toronto Island. - - - And for which he holds medals from the Humane Society of Great Britain; and valuable presents from the citizens of Toronto for the pluck and bravery so often displayed by him in saving life on Toronto Island. - - -

In recommending that this application be granted immediately, I consider Mr Wm Ward is most deserving of the indulgence he asks for.

Hon. Minister,

I Have &c

John W. Ward Esq.

Sir,

13. March 1876.-

By referring to Messrs Beggan, and Brownjohns map of B. Beach, in your possession - you will please find marked thereon a narrow strip of land or bar about 800 yards long, running from the main beach, into B. Bay, in a southerly direction - marked "fisheries". - - -

This narrow bar commences at Martin's Wharf, and terminates at the point about 800 yards in the bay. - - -

Mr. P. A. Bates, fish dealer, Hamilton, has just recently gone there, taken possession, built two ice houses 104 x 25 feet, and 73 x 25 feet wide, and stowed away therein about 1,500 tons of ice - a speculation, to be shipped to some place in the United States, for sale. - - Altho this fishing reserve is not at present used as a fishing ground in active operation under license, still I presume no person not a licensed fisherman, can at his own free will and pleasure take possession of this fishing reserve, except by permission of the department. - -

Section 3. of the Fisheries Act, does not give Bates, authority - to take possession of this fishing reserve, for the purposes for which he is now using it, without your permission. - - - Because when B. Bay was recently leased to the City of Hamilton, by the Local Government - Toronto, this little bar, in no place a chain wide was reserved to the fisheries and fisheries department. - -

I have therefore the honor to apply to you for instructions as to how I am to deal with P. A. Bates in this case, whether I shall take him for trespass, or get rent from him, for occupying this point, or do both, which he has taken possession of without permission or any ceremony on his part whatever. -

With due respect,

I have &c

John W. Kerr  
D. O.

Hon. Minister,

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

Sir,

7. March 1876. -

I have the honor to receive from you the letter of Mr Isaac Mills, 320, York street - Hamilton, about fishing in Dundas Marsh, with your instructions to report thereon. - - -

In reply, I have the honor to report that Mr Isaac Mills, has endeavored to mislead you by false sympathy and by misrepresentations of facts, for except in one instance, he fails altogether to tell you the truth. - - -

I agree, millions of good fish are in Dundas Marsh at particular times during each year. - - -

If however you acceded to Mr Isaac Mills application - in a short time very few fish of any kind would be found there. - - Mr Isaac Mills is himself the identical man, who as late as about three years ago, went through Dundas Marsh, shooting and spearing black bass on their spawning beds; and black bass cannot be classed under the head of common fish. -

With regard to poor men being taxed one dollar for spearing thro' the ice in B. Bay, and Dundas Marsh - during this winter season; spearing has been so very poor from muddy water, and breaking of ice, by storms, and repeated freshets during the current winter, that I have not yet exacted a single dollar from any poor man, nor any other man, - since the first formation of the ice on B. Bay, and D. Marsh, for spearing, even up to this present time - feeling as I did, and do - that you would approve of this course in the matter - fish houses were put out, and fish houses were taken in off the ice again and again, and hardly a dollar's worth of fish was speared by any single person during this entire winter through the ice in these respective places. - - -

Mr Isaac Mills of 320, York street - here, whom I know very well has never yet paid a cent for the privilege of spearing, he has however



built him a boat, and has now made preparation to spear  
hals on the spawning beds next May I heard: - provided  
he could by his false sympathy for the poor, lead you  
to believe that your local officer - the fisheries Act, rules, and  
regulations of Council oppressed the poor, when in reality  
he only cares for himself. . . .

Lest I might have forgotten, what had happened  
3 years ago, I went this day, and saw the person, who then  
caught Mr Isaac Mills spearing and shooting black  
hals on the spawning beds in Dundas Marsh, and so  
you will please observe that I am still, as I was then  
well posted in this matter. . . .

Except for angling at all times during the legal  
season in each year, I cannot now recommend any  
deviation from your decision laid down in your letter  
of the 13, of March 1874, in reply to an extensively  
signed petition from B. R. Charlton Esq, Mayor here &c  
&c, about Dundas Marsh fisheries. . . .

I hope this will be satisfactory. -

With due respect

Hon: Minister,

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Note - a few persons paid \$1. each, for the privilege of  
spearing during in open water last November. . . .

The petitions were signed by respectable persons up-  
wards of 500 persons. - so that Mr Isaac Mills is in error,  
here also.

J. W. Kerr

J. W. Kerr

D. O.



Sir,

Hamilton, 21. March 1876.

I wrote you on the 8<sup>th</sup>, instant, in answer to yours of the 6<sup>th</sup>, instant. - This letter, and the previous one I got from you, I sent at once to the fisheries department Ottawa. - -

In reply to your letters, I am requested to ask you to furnish me in writing, all particulars to which you refer, and I will send it on to Ottawa, where it is required. - - -

I may tell you, that you will be allowed to fish this year about the Isle of boxes, and adjacent Islands - and Mr. Braughton, and son, cannot meddle with you, please answer soon, and be full in particulars. - -

Mr James B. Stallock,  
Fisherman. -  
Meaford, Onto.

Yours truly,

John W. Kerr  
Fishery Officer.

P.S. - I send this under cover to the Postmaster for you. - Except Mr George S. Miller, J. O., and Mr McFarlane - Owen Sound - and the fisheries dept Ottawa - no person is aware that you have written to me. - -

J. W. Kerr

† Sunday 19, March 1876. -

On the Dundas marsh, - thence by the Heights - and around to Sandy  
 Forsyth's boat house. Found all regular, went out at 9. a.m. came  
 in at 6.30. p.m. miles 20, Horse and sleigh <sup>#</sup>2.50 - Fred<sup>#</sup> Kerr,  
 and W. Kasherry - with me. - George Booth, and John  
 Reynolds were on the marsh, - apparently hunting about musk  
 rat houses. - - Heard Chris: base, had a pike gill net. - -  
 The

† Wednesday 22, March 1876. -

At Port Credit, to enquire into the particulars of Fred<sup>#</sup> K.  
 Schaffer's letter - see my report of 24<sup>th</sup> instant, saw  
 him, Jim Wiley, old <sup>III</sup> Block - and the stage driver,  
 went out at 8. a.m. came in at 2.30. p.m. - thence to  
 the <sup>III</sup> Wages, in <sup>II</sup> - came in at 5.30 p.m. - 70 miles. -  
 Pay fare 1.80, dinner <sup>#</sup>25. <sup>#</sup>40 B. 1.50

† Thursday 23, March 1876. -

At B. beach, gave out licenses to David Gitch &  
 Duncan McIlwray <sup>#</sup>4, Alex. Rollo <sup>#</sup>4, John Saaffe <sup>#</sup>4, Richard  
 Saaffe & Robert Hatcher <sup>#</sup>4, Dan McJoyne <sup>#</sup>4, Robt Hall paid <sup>#</sup>1.50  
 John Bates <sup>#</sup>4, Joe Yates <sup>#</sup>4, paid - S. P. Stepe & W. Lottidge  
<sup>#</sup>4, paid, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. -  
 miles 26, <sup>#</sup>4 & sleigh <sup>#</sup>3.00. - Ed: Kerr, with me. -

† Friday 24, March 1876. -

At Dundas, and home by the Heights. Saw John Blair  
 went out at 9. a.m. came in at 3.30. p.m. tolls 12,  
 Horse and buggy <sup>#</sup>2.50, Charles J. Kerr, with me. - - -  
 miles 20.

Rev.

27, March 1876. -

I have the honor to receive your letter of 23<sup>rd</sup>, instant, in which you say: - "I am to request you to send ~~me~~ the \$<sup>5</sup> which you held in deposit, as the amount of fine imposed upon Arthur Clarke, for having in possession a barrel of White fish alleged to have been caught during 'the close season'." -

In reply I have the honor to send you Bank cheque No. 178, for the sum of five dollars, being the proceeds of a barrel of Trout, with one White fish therein, I found in the possession of Mr Charles ~~Duff~~ Daly, a Conductor on the Wulgray, and Bruce Railway, which I seized, Confiscated, and sold for the amount. -

The barrel of Trout was sent by Arthur Clarke, a fish dealer - Collingwood - addressed to Mr A Clarke of Galt - meant for, it was supposed Mrs Barbara Clarke. - Please read my reports 13<sup>th</sup> and 22 of November last. -

Subsequently John Williams - fish dealer of Galt, disposed of those fish (Trout and a Wh. fish) when Mrs Barbara Clarke a fish dealer as above through revenge. Complained of him for selling them during Close season - when as a matter of fact and law, he was fined <sup>\$7.70</sup> including costs. - -

When I reported this to you, you directed me to pay Mr John Williams <sup>\$7.70</sup>, which I done without a murmur, as I felt I may have partly led him into error. -

My letter of 24 of November, and my Confidential report of 3<sup>rd</sup> of December last, called for by you on the Patton letter, will more fully explain to you every thing.

I Have &c

Wm. A. Minister

John W. Kent

J. O.

Sir,

27, March 1876.

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque No: 178. for the sum of five dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount to speaking in B. Bay - for winter of 1875, and 1876, as follows: -

No: 1, Walter Kirkendall, In B. Bay. -		\$ 1.00.
" 2, Jack Jones. -	do.	\$ 1.00.
" 3, John Book, -	do.	\$ 1.00.
" 4, James Shaver. -	do. -	\$ 1.00.
" 5, William Rose.	do.	\$ 1.00.
Total. -		<u>\$ 5.00.</u>

I have begg me another dollar - paid to me by James Ellis, which I will send you in my next remittance.

I Have &c

John W. Kerr  
S.O.

Hon: Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

Sir,

1<sup>st</sup> April 1876. -

I have the honor to send you, the copy of another letter, I recently received from Mr James B. Stallock - Fisherman - Meaford, in obedience to your instructions. -

With due respect,

I Have &c

John W. Kerr  
S.O.

Hon: Minister  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.



Sir,

1<sup>st</sup> April 1876. -

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque  
No. 182, for the sum of thirty one dollars. - - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
as follows: -

1. Messrs David Ward, Pat Gray, and William Ward,  
for license fee of fisheries, on Toronto Island, for  
the current year, at 60<sup>¢</sup> dollars, per year, now  
sent on acct <sup>4</sup> 30.00.

2. - James Ellis - Spearing license in B. Bay.  
Winters of 1875, and 6. - \$ 1.00

Total \$31.00

With due respect

I Have &c

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

Mr. Minister,  
&, &, &.  
Ottawa,

Tuesday, 28, March 1876. -

On Toronto Train to Toronto, thence to the Island.  
Went out at 8, A. M. came in at 4, P. M. Railway  
Train 1.20<sup>¢</sup>, Boat hire 50<sup>¢</sup>, dinner, tea and bed 45<sup>¢</sup>.  
Miles 48. 34 & By 1.50<sup>¢</sup> 3.95

Wednesday, 29, March 1876. -

On the Island - to see Billy and David Ward,  
James Durnan - with reference to fishing license  
for the latter - went out at 9, A. M. came in  
at 3.30 P. M. - walked 6 miles, a great snow  
storm. - breakfast, dinner tea and bed 1.00.

Thursday 30, March 1876. -

A great snow storm - still weather bound. -  
breakfast dinner, tea, and bed, \$ 1.00

## County of Wentworth. --

Return shewing to whom spearing permits, and licenses have been issued, to spear in B. bay, in the South Riding of Wentworth, for the years 1874, and 1875. --

No. Names to whom given. Spearing 1874 and 1875. Amt paid. --

1.	Jerry Hudson	In B. bay Winter of 1874 & 5,	1.00
2.	Samuel Smoake.	— Please refer do,	1.00
3.	Aaron Boden.	— to my letter of 2 <sup>d</sup> do	1.00
4.	Joseph Thompson.	— February 1875. -- do,	— 50
5.	Thomas Croft.	— Cheque No. 117,	1.00
6.	Charles Briggs.	—	1.00
7.	Fred <sup>d</sup> B. Starkey	—	1.00
8.	Joe Gates.	—	1.00
9.	Christopher Case.	—	8.50 1.00
10.	Chris <sup>n</sup> Lotman.	— Please re=	1.00
11.	Peter English.	— go to my	1.00
12.	John Doyle.	— letter of the	1.00
13.	John McHenry.	— 10 <sup>th</sup> of April	1.00
14.	John Blain.	— 1875,	1.00
15.	John W. Blain.	— Cheque No 183,	1.00
16.	Rich <sup>d</sup> Nicholson.	—	1.00
17.	Fred <sup>d</sup> Morrison.	—	1.00
18.	Thomas Oliver.	—	1.00
19.	Elmer Alpreps.	—	1.00
20.	Samuel Blain.	—	— 85
21.	Wm Clarke.	—	— 75
22.	Wm Kasherry.	—	1.00
23.	John Lyons.	—	1.00
24.	John Holmes.	—	— 50
25.	Sam Chisholm.	—	15.10 1.00
26.	George Kent.	—	1.00
27.	Thomas Jones.	—	1.00
28.	John Bates.	—	1.00
29.	Wm Bates.	—	1.00
30.	George Lottidge.	—	1.00

Carried Over 28.60

	Continued	Carried up, --	#	¢
31.	Sam Lottidge	do. --	28.	60
32.	Benjamin Ashmore	"	1.	00
33.	Walter Kirkendall please	"	1.	00
34.	Jack Jones. -- refer to my let.	"	1.	00
35.	John Cook, ter dated 27 <sup>th</sup>	"	1.	00
36.	James Shaver. -- March	"	1.	00
37.	Wm. Rose. -- 1846. -- cheque 178. --	"	1.	00
38.	James Ellis. -- cheque No. 182.	"	1.	00
			Total # 36. 60	

Note. -- About forty persons put their fish boxes on the ice in O. bay -- during this current winter, but in consequence of the continued changeable weather. and muddy water. spearing was abandoned. -- Only 6 persons paid, see at end of this list. -- for winter of 1875. --

The spearing is mostly carried on in that part of the bay situated within the city limits, Hamilton, and the South Riding of Wentworth. --

The spearing usually ends about the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, when spearing is good. --

Co. the Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
The Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries. --  
Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
T. O.,  
Hamilton, Ont<sup>o</sup>  
31. March 1876. --

Sir. -- In reply to your telegraph just received. -- please find herewith the statements you require; you will please observe that the spearing was granted by you upon the recommendation of the Members for this City with my concurrence. --

Hon. Minister,  
T. O.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr  
T. O.

Sir,

+ April 1876. -

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque No: 185, for the sum of five dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for fishing license to Mr George White, at Whitley Station - Lake Ontario, for this current year. -

The license to be the same as last year. -

With due respect,

I have the Honor to be,

Sir.

Hon: Minister

H. H. H.

Your Obedt Servant

John W. Kerr

My dear Sir,

Your letter of the 27, of March, was duly received. -

Please give me the names of all persons who bought White fish and Salmon Trout, during the close season last November, - and if Soldana, of Frederick or Buffalo bought any of the said fish that were so caught during the close season. -

Please give it to me free and above board, for the Department at Ottawa, - All the information you are in possession of. - Mr White, the Commissioner of Fisheries there, has written to me to get it from you. - -

I send you two papers (printed) for your information, and guidance, and I will send you soon an entire copy of the Fisheries Act.

I am much obliged for your hint about Mr James Patton, it is the first I have heard about such a thing happening.

The small paper now sent you contains the law about White fish and Salmon Trout. -

I wrote you letter on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March did you get it. - I applied and got you all permission to fish this year at the Isle of Cones - without applying to the Aughton of B. - -  
 for Dr. Hallock with him again - It seems  
 Fisherman  
 Menford.



Let.

21. March 1876.

I am in receipt of your letter of the 16<sup>th</sup> instant, and in reply I beg most respectfully to refer you to my reports of the 13<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of November last.

The fish were sold by me for five dollars; I was made aware soon after the seizure was made that the barrel of Trout, with one white fish in it were caught legally, - however! I seized them, for being illegally in possession at Galt, - confiscated and sold them, and for doing which you afterwards approved of my conduct.

I incurred no expense in this seizure, being on other duty in Galt, at the time. . . .

I have the \$5, still in my possession, but it was my intention, when I had finally wound up the Georgian Bay, Contraventions <sup>Cases</sup> of the Fisheries Act, at Collingwood and Meaford, now on hand to recommend you to allow me to hand this \$5 to Mr. Arthur Clark, Jr. dealer and fisherman at Collingwood - and so I told him, the last time I saw him there, solely because he was one of the band of fishermen, who did not fish in Georgian Bay last November, during close season. Altho' he was one of those who did fish during close season in November 1874, and for which he was fined, wh. fish confiscated and sold. And because he tried to persuade those fishermen who did fish during close season last November, not to do so, by telling them he would buy no wh. fish &c. from any man who would break the law. -

With due respect.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
J. W. K.

Hon. Minister  
J. J. J.  
Ottawa.

Sir,

21. March 1876.--

I have the honor to submit for your consideration a letter I have just received from Mr. Isidore Labute a Frenchman, and a fisherman in the River Thames - Lot 1001, front Concession Raleigh - below Chatham, whom you will be pleased to observe, has been a licensed fisherman on this fishing ground during the last three years.---

personally, I know nothing of the matter complained of, beyond what Mr. Isidore Labute's letter contains.---

Unless he has been guilty of some flagrant contravention of the Fisheries Act. --- Mr. G. McKee, Fishery Overseer, could not fairly deprive him of his fishing ground, there; not even then, without your sanction. I have heretofore when you ordered me there, found the French fishermen on this River always very civil, and obedient to the fishery laws. I strongly recommend that you will be pleased to order Mr. McKee to continue to Mr. Labute his annual fishing license.---

I regret being again obliged to meddle in the internal affairs of Mr. McKee's division, but the annexed letter, will I hope justify my doing so.---

I have written Mr. Labute, that I submitted his letter to you, for consideration, and if ordered I would go up and make enquiries into his Complaint.---

With due respect

Hon. Minister

H. H. H.

Ottawa,

I Have &amp;c

John W. Kerr

P.O.

Friday 31, March 1876.

On Toronto Island & <sup>d</sup> on the sea to the city - thence home by Railway to Hamilton, went out at 8.30 a.m. came in at 4 p.m. miles 48, Railway <sup>d</sup> 1.20, breakfast, and dinner <sup>d</sup> 50. - -

\* Sat: 1<sup>st</sup> April 1876. -

On the bay - at the Heights - Lands - Inlet. -  
Beam - <sup>d</sup> 3.00, to take boat there. lunch <sup>d</sup> 50. Two boatmen <sup>d</sup> 2.00, searched for pike gill nets. - but found none - miles about 24. -

Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1876. -

at John Semmens - to get the plan of Dundas Marsh - went out at 8.30 a.m. came in at 3.30 p.m. - Henry Semmens started to the Crown Land office - Toronto for it. - - -

Wednesday, 4, April 1876. -

\* To see Henry Semmens about plan - thence to B. Beach. - gave license to Sam<sup>d</sup> Dynes, and J. H. Corey. - and Regulation in Council to David Hitch and Benj<sup>d</sup> Hodge. Read the Circular for the fishermen. it was regarding Wh<sup>d</sup> J. Seining being allowed in June and July, with four mesh mesh seines, went out at 8 a.m. came in at 7 p.m. miles 30. <sup>d</sup> 3.00. -

\* Thursday 5, April 1876.

at Prince Island Cote Paradise, had Mr. Frank with me. took observation about the marsh, so as to get a proper tracing for the Whitcher, went out at 7 a.m. came in at 1 p.m. - miles 16. <sup>d</sup> 3.00. -

Rev.

8, April 1876. -

I have the honor to receive yours of the 30, day of March last, and now beg most respectfully to send you herewith a tracing of that portion of the Dundas Marsh lying east of the line and north of the Western limits of the City of Hamilton. The rights and interests connected to you should be reserved by the Fisheries Department. - I have - with the concurrence of the Provincial Government - Toronto, for fish breeding purposes, in connection with the Bay of ...

This portion marked on the sketch, comprises all that part of the Dundas Marsh, lying east of the line drawn by me, from the Centre Pine tree, near the water edge, situated on Princess Island, within the Western limits of the City of Hamilton or township of Barton and the Rail fence, which is on the west side of the Fred <sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Morrissey - Orchard situated on lot 24, West Glanboro, and the Bay Heights - which forms the cemetery, and the portion of the City of Hamilton, as you will find it so marked on the plan. -

However! the best spawning line of fish, in the Marsh, is that part west of this line referred to, just about the small island, I have marked on the sketch. -

The additional portion of Dundas Marsh lying south of the Government Road or Barton Street, in the City of Hamilton, marked on the sketch, but which have never yet been opened, belong to the Hon. Mr. Charles Mackenzie, M.P. Can you why? I have not included it in the fishing reserve you have advised me to set apart for your approval. -

The additional portion situated east of the line from the small island, to the electricity place at the Heights, would include all that is absolutely vacant of the Marsh for the fishing reserve, in connection with the natural to be fish breeding purposes of the fishing of the Bay. -



All of which is respectfully submitted, and I have  
 the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant.

Hon. Minister,

H. H. H.

H. H. H.

W. H. H.

I have the

honor to be

S. O.

Sir,

11. April 1876.

I have the honor to send you herewith my  
 diary, and petty accounts - for the quarter ending the  
 31<sup>st</sup> day of March last.

I find I have travelled during this quarter a dis-  
 tance of 1,059 miles.

To amount of diary, for the quarter	\$ 65.75.
" Voucher - No. 1. C. J. Kerr, - Boatmen	10.00.
" " 2. J. W. Kerr, - Painter's boat, &c.	5.00.
" " 3. - J. W. Kerr, - Office Rent,	5.00.
" " 4. J. W. Kerr, - Telegraph, &c.	1.89.
" " 5. J. W. Kerr, - Stationery, &c.	2.10
Total	\$ 88.74

All of which is respectfully submitted,

I have the

honor to be

S. O.

Hon. Minister,

H. H. H.

Sir,

7. April 1876.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 5<sup>th</sup>, instant, with reference to the application of Wm A. Thompson Esq<sup>r</sup>, M. P. Jos McLeod - on behalf of Mess<sup>rs</sup> W. B. Corwin, Jonas Green, and James Malone, for a license to fish with dip nets in Chippawa Creek, near Drummondville. ---

In reply, I have the honor to report, that I am not personally acquainted with the applicants, but can easily find them out. --- The fish they intend to catch, are pickerel, bass, and the coarse fish, that annually every spring frequent this Creek, from the Niagara River. ---

I have no objection to your granting them a license at the Annual rate of \$3 - each, so as to keep them within the bounds of the Fisheries Act, and Regulations. ---

In recommending this application to be granted, I have to thank Mr Thompson, the M. P. - Jos McLeod, for the interest he has taken in this matter. ---

And With due Respect

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister,

H. H. H.

Ottawa,

I Have &c

John W. Kerr

D. O.

7. Sunday, 9. April 1876. -

On B. Bay - saw a boat out on Second Inlet, went down, and found Joe Gates, lying under a stack of straw - said he was watching his nets, to keep them from being robbed. --- Thence up to Lottidge Inlet - found 3. gill nets running from one side to the other of said Inlet - saw Simon Peter Stipe, gave order to leave  $\frac{1}{3}$  of inlet open in future, went out at 10, A. M. Came in at 6.30. P. M. Boat, Horse and Wagon - C. J. Kerr, and Wm. Page Jr with me. - Miles 16, \$4 & 03; 2.50.

Sir,

10. April 1896.

I have the honor to receive from Mr James G. Wilson letter of 3<sup>rd</sup> April, with your instructions to me to report thereon. . . .

In reply, I beg most respectfully to report, that I see no harm whatever, in allowing farmers, and the people of the village, to catch mullets, and suckers, in the River Credit, below the dam at Springfield, - free gratis, under proper restrictions; say up to the end of May, or tenth day of June in each year. . . .

And with regard to catching pike with gill nets, I really consider it advisable, that some licensed fisherman, be permitted to catch pike with gill nets, in the River Credit marsh, this spring, and so I have advised you, in my report of 24. of March last, on Fred<sup>d</sup> Shapero's letter. . . .

The proclamation - setting apart the River Credit, for the natural and artificial propagation of Salmon is in itself more efficient to protect the fish therein, if Mr Jas. G. Wilson, will properly exercise his authority over this stream, than the close season notices, for fish, he is now applying to you for. . . . via Section 15. of the Fisheries Act. . . .

If you will permit me to do so, I will get a pike gill net fisherman, to go to the Credit, the same as heretofore with your sanction, and catch off, some of the surplus pike there, this spring. . . . This can be all done without setting in the River or main stream, at all, - as the water is so very high all over, this season.

Besides as a protection to Salmon, you have already granted this privilege, at the Credit marsh, and in the marshes in the neighbourhood of Salmon River at Dufferin Creek, &c. &c.

Respectfully submitted & recommended for your Consideration. -

I Have &c,  
John W. Kent  
M. O.

Wm. J. Munister,  
4. 4. 4.

My dear Sir,

Your note of the 10<sup>th</sup> instant, just received, and in reply I have to inform you, that spearing for pike &c. in Dundas Marsh, and Burlington Bay, ended some time since for this season. - If I had the power, I would most undoubtedly permit you, and my friend Pickle to spear a shel. - You are permitted to catch Mulletts, and suckers in Dundas Creek. -

With kind regards. -

Yours truly, -

John W. Kerr

T. O.

12. April 1876. -

Alexander McPherson Esq  
Dundas. -

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 6<sup>th</sup> instant, and in reply, I beg to inform you that I can obtain for you a license to fish in Lake Ontario, in part of the township of of Clinton. - Please come along, and arrange for the ground. -

Yours truly,

John W. Kerr

T. O.

12. April 1876.

Mr De Witt Fleming,  
Beaconsfield.

Mr White, please write and let me know if any person but you is fishing in the bay. -

12 April 1876. -

J. W. Kerr

Sent George White - his license. -



My dear Sir.

I am in receipt of your letter bearing no date, with reference to American citizens being allowed to angle in the licensed fishing grounds, in Niagara River, at Fort Erie.

In reply I have to inform you, that I will this day submit your letter to the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Minister of Marine and Fisheries - Ottawa - and recommend the same to his favourable consideration. - -

I will send you the result in a few days. -

Yrs Respectfully. -

John H. Kent

D. A.

Hamilton Ont.

12. April 1876.

Henry Thornton Esq.

Black Rock. -

Rich County. -

N. Y. -

Tuesday, 11. April 1876. -

On B. bay - down thro' the Inlets, regulating the gill nets - set therein. - gave back to Simonds, a piece of gill net for Reel Starb's - thence across to Alex. Rollo's head from him - that Fred<sup>ly</sup> Corey had taken down the day before on his Wagon, a large gill net on Reel, another gill net in a box and had gone into the Lake in Jonathan Corey's boat to set them - Jack Waaffe told me the nets were not the legal size - went from thence to Seabrook, Jones and Depew Inlets. saw Stipe and Wm. Lottidge - gave them advice about <sup>not</sup> the setting the pike gill nets across the entire Inlet. -

Went out at 8 a.m. Came in at 7 p.m.

Mile 20. \$4.00 - Boat, C. J. and Ed. K. De.  
B. Ken rowing for me \$2, a dollar more. -

Mr. Kerr

Agent for Government Fisheries,  
Hamilton, Ont.

Dear Sir,

For my own information I take the liberty of addressing you to ascertain whether in letting the grounds along the Niagara River, to the present lease, you intended to exclude all other persons from fishing with hook and line, when the grounds were occupied by Harris he claimed that no one else could fish thereon, and forced parties fishing with hook and line, it was a source of much annoyance, and I shall feel greatly obliged for the desired information, I am interested in the Ferry, and if such is a course to be pursued many of our passengers will be driven elsewhere. —

Yours Respectfully,

Henry Thornton,

Black Rock,

Erie County. —

P.S. —

I would also like to ask <sup>whether</sup> you claim any jurisdiction over lands (portage) sold by Government, I own several pieces over which they claim the right to fish —

H. T. —

Thursday, 13 April 1876. —

#1. On the bay - fished in sand bay - found two pieces of fine gill net but illegally there. Went out at 9 A.M. came in at 4.30 P.M. Miles 20. \$4.00. C. J. and J. Kerr, rowing for me #2, one dollar each. — Bay about 200 yards.

Sir,

12, April 1876.

I have the honor to submit for your consideration the annexed application I received from Mr Henry Thornton, of Black Rock, Erie County, near Buffalo, State of N. Y. asking permission for American Citizens to fish with hook and line in the Niagara River - at Fort Erie. ---

By the Marginal Note, in the license issued to Mr George Sutton, fisherman, Fort Erie, - the successor of Mr C. Sturges there, thus! "Nothing in this license will be held to prevent angling or trolling within the limits described; the same being accepted subject to such privilege." ---

As I presume this note applies only to British Subjects I would respectfully beg to submit and recommend Mr Thornton's application to be granted by permit. --- The same as was granted to American Citizens on the St Lawrence a few years ago, that is if you approve of doing so; reserving at the same time to our licensed fisherman at Fort Erie, all rights that his license may entitle him to as against American Subjects angling within his licensed limits.

All of which is respectfully submitted and recommended for your consideration. ---

I Have &amp;c,

John W. Kent  
J. O.Hon: Ministers  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

Ottawa, 6, April 1876.

Mr Kerr,

Please send me a description of the limits and conditions which you desire should be included in that Gray and David Woods license. -

Why is the rate raised from 50<sup>#</sup> to 60<sup>#</sup>? -

Mr Baueck -

Please find it herewith. -

It was done in 1864. - on my Consulting with Mr W. at Ottawa - because they were old fishermen, long in possession and wished to retain all, and protect and not fish to ex-  
 14. April 1876. -

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Copy. -

Commencing at the west side of the Humbel Bridge, thence east along Lake Ontario, and the bay of Toronto, to the mouth of the river Don, and to the east side of the gap, known as the bend. - From the gap west around the shores of Lake Ontario and the bay of Toronto Island, to the extent of one chain in depth from the waters edge. - To enjoy the same privileges as are now enjoyed by the said licensees, and to have free access to, and occupation of the same. - The privilege of fishing to extend Ten miles into L. O. - to the exclusion of every other fisherman. - -

The licensees to have permission to fish Salmon Trout, and Herring gill nets - and haul Seine of legal size meshes for White fish. - The licensees have no power to sub let. - and this license is not transferable. - No spearing allowed.



Man,

Sir,

31<sup>st</sup> March 1876.-

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 23<sup>rd</sup> instant, in which you say: "I am to request you to send here the \$5. which you hold in deposit, as the amount of fine imposed upon Arthur Clark for having in possession a barrel of White fish alleged to have been caught during the close season."

In reply I have the honor to report that I seized no barrel of White fish, but I send you a five dollar bill of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, No. 285,996, dated Toronto May 1<sup>st</sup> 1874, the proceeds of a barrel of Salmon Trout, I seized, confiscated, and sold for this amount, and which I found in the possession of Charles Daly, a conductor on the Wellington, Grey and Bruce Railway at Galt, on the 13. day of November last, the same being close season for Salmon Trout, and which I presume is what you refer to, and in conclusion I may add - that if Clark claims this money upon the presumption that I seized a barrel of White fish, - he is not entitled to this money - as I seized none. -

I Have &amp;c

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.,  
Ottawa,

S. Sunday, 16, April 1876. - - -

On B. bay - found two persons in the Marsh, south of James Tilman's - on B. bay - One of them carried three fish in his hands - the other carried a spear - landed sent my two sons in pursuit of them - they dropped the Pike's and spear - my son took them back and gave them up to me - One of the persons came back again - after we entered our boat - supposed to be one Tilman's boys - thence on to Kerry Pond - gaffled a gill net - about 300 yards got 3 pike, three suckers - and a Cat fish therein - on turning to go home two of Tilman's - and a son of Isaac Kerry followed us in their boat very suspicious - but caught shy when they found out who we were, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 8. p.m.

Hills 34. 44. 3.00

Sir,

24 March 1876. -

I am in receipt of your letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> instant, accompanied with copy of letter of Complaint, &c. - from Fred<sup>d</sup> Shaper, dated Toronto, 16. of March instant against James Wilcox fishery dealer of the River Credit - at Port Credit. - -

In reply I have the honor to report, that Fred<sup>d</sup> Shaper, is a Ship Carpenter, at Port Credit; I called and saw him there on last Wednesday. - -

And in conversation with him he reiterated all his letter to you contains, but this only passes muster with me, who knows him. For what it is worth, and amounts to very little in my own estimation. I will however, fairly, and above board give you all I know, in these premises. - -

Fred<sup>d</sup> Shaper, whom I have known about seven years is a man whose imagination frequently leads him, into error, and trouble, and he is partly in error in these present cases he now refers to. - James Wilcox, did receive \$10. from two persons, who fished in the River Credit under the dam at Springfield, for Suckers and Mulletts last year, and accounted for the same to the Department, but he has not issued any license to any one since last August, and I warned him against doing so this season; - as regards Salmon being in the River Credit, my own candid opinion is no Salmon frequented the stream last year. - - -

Mr Jas Wilcox and Fred<sup>d</sup> Shapers report to the contrary notwithstanding - Fred<sup>d</sup> Shaper magnifies every thing so much that I am obliged to be the more explicit to you in my report. - - It is only in the spring time of the year, when Mulletts, and Suckers, and still further on during the latter end of May, and fore part of June, when Suckers ascend the River Credit, that it would be profitable for any man to draw a net therein: So that Fred<sup>d</sup> Shaper is at fault, to a great extent, and after the expiration of this period in May and June, fishermen farmers - no matter how desirous to net fish would



catch nothing by drawing a net therein, as the fish referred to, after the middle of June, are all returned to the Lake again. Pike and hogs remaining in the Credit, and this is in deep water, say for about a mile, commencing at the Lake, and up stream through the marsh, to the old Indian village, and in which seine nets, have never yet been drawn, because of logs. &c, &c. ---

Fred. Shafer, says: "I pay a license <sup>to</sup> fish in the Lake, and am one of the oldest settlers there, and fished there for the last forty years". -- Here again he draws (entirely) extensively on his own imagination - he pays no license fee at present, paid once, during my incumbency in office, and this is how he appears in the annual return for year 1869, - Port Credit, Fred. Shafer, - Licensed - did not fish - was disappointed in getting up nets: -- He is at present an applicant for seine hauling ground - Port Credit, and is building a hauling seine, but I have yet to learn the result. ---

Fred. Shafer, says again. There has been now 10 to 15, licenses issued last year, and I can prove Mr. Wilcox does not look after the interest of the fish breeding - as he did not go out all last season to prevent saw dust, and dye stuffs from going into the River, which is both on the west, there is 9 miles? ---

In reply to all this, you will please observe that only two persons out of the 10 or 15 were permitted to fish with small sheet nets for suckers &c, during last season in the River Credit. -- Jas. Wilcox, as I reported to the department last August was, and is at present in bad afflicted with inflammatory Rheumatism, but is self, and not the interest of the fishery it appears to me at least, that has induced Fred. Shafer, in his imagination to complain of Jas. Wilcox his friend - they appear to be on terms of friendship. -- I have not in making my inquiries made use of any remarks, to cause any suspicion between them. -- Jas. Wilcox never was a very efficient officer, owing to his bodily infirmities his tongue being at all times the only active member of his Composition. --

The saw dust, at Streetsville, Barbours



and at Springfield - is kept out of the Creek, for in  
 earlier it is burned up, in the steam saw mill - and sold for  
 horse bedding, and at Springfield it is disposed of in  
 the same manner, - above Streetsville further up the

*x. But wrong in attributing it to the effects of dye stuffs.*  
 River. I have heard, and my suspicion are that saw dust  
 is allowed to fall into the River, from some of the Mills,  
 as I observed appearances of it at Port Credit, but not  
 wishing to incur expense without your special orders, I  
 did not go up to examine any of these mills. - -

And as regards dye stuffs, being let into the River Credit,  
 at Streetsville, by Messrs. Barber and Beattie, at Springfield  
 by Mr. Turner. Killing herring 6. and 9 miles away at the  
 mouth of the River Credit, at Port Credit, in Lake Ontario,  
 why! it is simply an absurd imagination of Fred<sup>12</sup>  
 Shaper. - - The Messrs. Barber, Beattie, and Turner, are  
 warm friends, and advocates of the fisheries, and the  
 protection of fish and have not allowed any deleterious  
 substances to enter the waters of the River Credit from  
 their Establishment. - -

*x. but wrong in attributing it to the effects of dye stuffs.*  
 As to small herring being seen dead and dying at  
 the mouth of the River Credit last June - "Fred<sup>12</sup> Shaper  
 is right, in saying so." For this is a thing that has happened  
 with this New Chaps of Herring reported to you by me  
 on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 1873 - and again on the 20<sup>th</sup> day  
 of June 1874. - and still later last season - as being  
 seen by myself, fishermen, and the public dead and  
 dying by thousands at Toronto Island, and all  
 around Lake Ontario, even in B. bay - and at the  
 same time and during the past two years, and at  
 the same period in each year, and which is a  
 most unaccountable thing in my mind, - and ne-  
 vertheless this great dying off of these fish they have  
 increased to millions, so that you will please  
 observe that imagination has to a great extent  
 been leading Fred<sup>12</sup> Shaper, on from one  
 thing to another, until finally, his imagination

prompts him to say: "Now if you will give me the appointment, I will not make any charge on the Government." I cannot therefore recommend Fred. Shafer, for the appointment of Guardian on the River Credit, and that he offers to perform free, gratis, because his letter contains so many misrepresentation not for the interest and prosperity of the River Credit fisheries. . . .

Apart however from anything Fred<sup>th</sup> Shafer may have said, I have heard from two men of reliability, that Mr Jas: G. Wilcox, has never done anything, nor enough to entitle him to the salary of \$50 - per annum. - which it appears he has been regularly in receipt of since his appointment, as Fishing Overseer of the River Credit. . . .

To allow farmers to catch suckers, and mullets under the dam at Springfield every spring, and some licensed fisherman to catch pike with gill nets in the Credit River marsh, with all due deference to Fred<sup>th</sup> Shafer. - can never hurt the salmon, even taking it for granted that salmon are as numerous, as Messrs<sup>3</sup> Jas: G. Wilcox & Co. has represented these fish to you to be in the River Credit. -

In conclusion - altho, I do it reluctantly I recommend that after 30<sup>th</sup> day of June next, Mr Jas: G. Wilcox service be dispensed with, because he is from bodily infirmities incapacitated from discharging his duty, and because a permanent guardian is not a necessary appointment yet required so far as salmon protection is concerned in this depleted salmon stream, the River Credit. -

With much respect,

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

P. E.

I would be lacking in my fidelity to you, and the dept had I withheld from you longer, this report, true as I believe it is, in all particulars.

John W. Kerr

J. W.

\* Monday - 17. April 1876. -  
 On B. bay - and B. beach - to make enquiries  
 about G. H. Lacey - Jacob Lacey, and Andrew Dougal  
 being out on Sunday in Lake Ontario, fishing up. -  
 got particulars. - went out at 12.30. pm. came in at 6.  
 p.m. - Miles 20. \$44 <sup>1/2</sup> 2.00 - Boat, and Boatmen 2.

\* Tuesday, 18. April 1876. -  
 At Toronto, saw Patrick Gray - delivered James  
 Aurnan license to the Gray - who was to receive  
 \$10. for me and then deliver it. -  
 Saw John Stanley. - Mr Doyle, and del<sup>d</sup>  
 melpages - for W. Hardy, Ben. Marsh. - Billy  
 Montgomery &c, to pay the Gray - for me \$10.  
 each. - went out at 8. a.m. came in at  
 6. p.m. - Miles 88. Ry fare 2.40, dinner 25.  
 \$44 B: 1.50 \$7 1/2 15

Wednesday 19. April 1876. -  
 On B. Straits - saw Chas. Case - and a number  
 of men in boats up in the Dundas Marsh - spear-  
 fish pike - went out at 9. a.m. came in  
 at 3. p.m. - Miles 8. \$44 B. 2.00.  
 C. J. Raw, with me.

Telegraph to Mr. Whitcher - 20 instant 27¢  
 Foolscap 25 - Envelopes 10¢  
 Postage stamps 25¢  
 Quills - pens 25¢.

Foolscap \$1.1  
 pens. note  
 paper in-  
 velopes  
 again. 4



Ottawa, 19, April 1876. -

Mr Kerr -

Whatever is done in re James Durman - should be done promptly. -

S. W. B. -

Mr Brewster -

I was in Toronto, on the 18<sup>th</sup> instant, when I handed Mr P. Gray, the license for James Durman, to be handed to him immediately on receipt of the ten dollars I done so in order that he might commence fishing at once.

21, April 1876. -

Yrs &c,

John W. Kerr

T.O., Hamilton.

My dear Sir,

Have you seen James Durman - got the 10.<sup>00</sup> and delivered to him his license, that I gave you on Tuesday. - If you have not seen him, do so immediately and write me whether he pays the 10. dollars, and accepts the license, or not, and oblige

Yrs &c

John W. Kerr

T.O.

21, April 1876.

Mr P. Gray,  
The Island,  
Toronto.

P.S. please tell Mr David Ward, that I have just got the license for him and you, for the 60.<sup>00</sup>, to be handed over on receiving the balance \$30. - Billy Ward's name is not in it. -

The Dept. give you both control of the Chain all round the Island for fishing purposes, from the water's edge, attend to James Durman's business at once, and write me.

Yrs

Mr P. Gray,  
The Island.

John W. Kerr

T.O.



Sir,

18. April 1876.

I have the honor to send you herewith the printed copy of documents given to Mr John Harris, Managing Editor of the Hamilton Times, for publication by Mr Thomas Bain, M.P., for the North Riding of Kentworth, who at the same time ordered and paid for fifty copies of the paper for distribution amongst his Constituents. . . .

On comparing the published list with my books, I find Mr Bain, ought to have given in a correct return of seventy six names, more than he has. - While I find I have only omitted up to this time, sending you five names, five dollars, for the year 1875.

I deem it my duty on making this discovery, to apprise you of the matter. -

With due respect

I Have &amp;c

John W. Kerr  
P.O.Hon. Minister  
& F. &  
Ottawa.

-x- Friday 21, April 1876. -

On Dundas Marsh. Henry Simmons, having given me information that a gill net was set in the canal near the Mangel Island, - searched diligently for it, went out at 1.30. p.m. Came in at 8. p.m. Mile 20, Boat, J & B. 2.00, C. J. Kerr with me. -

Sir,

19. April 1876.

With reference to my letter to you of the 18<sup>th</sup> instant, relating to documents containing the names of fishermen published in the Hamilton Series of the 14<sup>th</sup> instant, at the instance of Thos: Bain Esq<sup>r</sup> M.P., for the north Riding of Westworth. -

I have the honor to state for your information that on carefully examining my books, and comparing the same with the Bain's published list, I find the undermentioned names have been omitted therefrom altogether, and when I give you the substance of a conversation I had this day with Mr Bain you will perceive I have reason to complain.

I was not aware until now, that Parliamentary papers called for, by order of the House of Commons, dated 29. of March 1876, would become the private property of Mr Thomas Bain, M.P., and be taken therefrom for publication, after the House prorogued. -

No:

Barnes

Year. -

1. George Binkley. -
2. Thomas Mott. -
3. Samuel Forsyth. -
4. John Baumberger. -
5. Joseph Blin. -
6. Cyrus Campbell. -
7. James Maguire. -
8. John Blaine
9. Gabriel Hopkins. -
10. Joseph Kent. -
11. Marshall Lyons. -
12. Joseph Orr. -
13. Henry Davis. -
14. Thomas Oaks. -
15. Charles Yakes. -
16. Frank Rose. -
17. William Russell. -
18. Thomas Loice. -

For year - Winter of 1871. and 1872,

All paid to the department, should be accounted for, in with year 1872. -

For year 1871.

19.	David Gitch	For year 1872,
20.	John Bates,	"
21.	William Bates,	"
22.	William Lottridge, -	For year 1873. -
23.	Wm. Prince Depew, -	"
24.	Daniel McGoyne, -	"
25.	Benjn. G. H. -	"
26.	David Gitch.	"
27.	William Perkins,	"
28.	Charles Abraham, -	"
29.	Richard Laaffe, -	"
30.	John Cournot,	"
31.	William Ashbaugh, -	"
32.	John Baumbarger, -	"
33.	Samuel Smoake, -	"
34.	James Inright,	"
35.	Thomas Deves, -	"
36.	William Cottrel, -	"
37.	Barney D. Rule, -	"
38.	William Stopkins, -	"
39.	Columbus Stopkins,	"
40.	Daniel Lyons, -	"
41.	Benjamin Brickmore,	"
42.	Jacob Orr,	"
43.	Thomas Oliver,	"
44.	John Gakes, -	"
45.	Thomas Lyson, -	"
46.	Luke Thompson, -	"
47.	William Raspberry, -	"
48.	David Dennis, -	"
49.	David Stock, -	"
50.	William Stock, -	"
51.	John Bixler,	For year 1874
52.	John Barnard, -	"
53.	William Rose, -	"

all paid to the department,

- 54, William Gage. -  
 55, John Bates. -  
 56, William Lottridge  
 57, John Connor. -  
 58, David Tyson. -  
 59, Samuel Lottridge. -  
 60, Richard Kaaffe. -  
 61, Walter Kirkendall. -  
 62, Jack Jones. -  
 63, John Cook. -  
 64, James Shaver. -  
 65, William Rose. -  
 66, James Ellis. -

For year 1874. -

"

"

"

"

"

"

For year 1875. -

"

"

"

"

"

all paid to the department.

- 67, Barry D. Rule. -  
 68, Wm. Henry Waterbury. -  
 69, Nicholas Grayley. -  
 70, Shipman Cummings. -  
 71, George Binkley. -

Will be accounted for  
 in my next remittance.

do,

for year 1875.

do,

"

do

"

72, John Lyons. -

Year 1873. Paid.

73, Robert Rasher. -

"

do,

John W. Kerr

Fishing Officer,  
 Hamilton. -

Hamilton, Ont.

19, April 1876. -

Sir,

20, April 1876.

You will please find this annexed return  
 and the attached memorandum. -

I have &c

John W. Kerr

D.O.

W. J. Whitehead Esq  
 Comr. of Fisheries,  
 Ottawa.



"Confidential".

21, April 1876.

My dear Sir,

Yours received, the people are allowed to catch suckers, and mullets, in the Dundas Creek, for their own use, but they are not allowed to sell any. - And they are permitted to spear pike under certain restrictions, but not in the indiscriminate way they have been carrying on. - - -

If you could make it convenient to walk down the Canal bank from Dundas Marsh, early next Sunday morning, I will meet you with my boat, so as to reconnoitre there. - - -

Any person selling speared pike in your Market, can be fined. Please watch sale, see it completed, and take the names for me. -

Thomas McDonough Esq.  
Chief Constable,  
Dundas. -

Yrs Truly,  
John W. Kent  
J. W.

Show me the Gammer's paper mill - and glue factory - &c. &c. are they keeping (out) the deleterious stuff from the Creek. -

Yrs J. W. Kent

Sunday, 23, April 1876. -

On B. bay, and the Dundas Marsh - found nothing wrong - went out at 7.30, a.m., Game in at 4.30 p.m. - Miles 20, I & B. 2.00 - Boat - Boatmen \$2, each. - - -

Return to Order of Commons, dated 29th March, 1876, for a Return of all Licenses issued by the Inspector of Fisheries for Fishing in Burlington Bay and the Dundas Marsh during the Years 1872, '73, '74, '75—the Name of the Parties to whom such Licenses were Granted, &c., &c.

FISHERIES BRANCH,

OTTAWA, April 4th, 1876.

SIR,—I am directed by the Minister to enclose herewith a return to an Address of the House of Commons, dated the 29th ultimo, asking for information relative to licenses issued by the local fishery overseer for fishing in Burlington Bay and Dundas Marsh during the years 1872, 1873, 1874, 1875.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) W. F. WHITCHER,

for the Hon. Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries.

E. J. Langevin,

Under Secretary of State,  
Ottawa.

SCHEDULE OF LICENSES issued by the local fishery overseer for fishing in Burlington Bay and Dundas Marsh during the years 1872, 1873, 1874 and 1875:

Year.	Names of Licensees.	Duration of License.	License fees, how applied.	Mode of fishing.
1872	Benjamin Foulds	3 mos., from Mar. 10 to June 10th	Paid over to Receiver-General to credit of fisheries.	Gill net fishing
"	Jonathan Corey & Co.	Season.	"	"
"	Samuel Jones	1 month, from April 10 to May 10	"	"
"	Mrs. M. Martin	Season.	"	"
"	Benjamin Joyce	"	"	"
"	John Taaffe	"	"	Seine fishing
"	Daniel McGwyne	"	"	"
"	Wm. Podkins	"	"	"
"	George Hall	From 1st Dec. to 13th March, 1873.	"	Spear-fishing.
"	Charles Shears, Nicholas Fraley, Charles Tinen and Joseph Amour	From 20th Nov., 1872 to 13th March, 1873.	"	"
1873	Thomas Jones	From 1st Nov. 1872 to 10th May, 1874.	"	Gill net fishing.
"	John Bates	"	"	"
"	Mortimer Corey	"	"	"
"	Alex. Rolla & Co. and Nathaniel Jones	From 18th March to 10th May.	"	"
"	S. E. Gregory	Season.	"	"
"	Col. Wm. McGiverin	"	"	"
"	Thomas Joyce	"	"	"
"	William Gage	"	"	"
1874	Alex. Rolla	"	"	Seine fishing.
"	Thos. Martin	"	"	"
"	John Taaffe	"	"	"
"	Mrs. A. Sherbenall	"	"	Seine & gill net fishing.
"	Morris F. Birely	"	"	"
"	Do.	"	"	"
"	Thos. Jones	From 1st Nov. 73 to 1st April, 74.	"	Spear-fishing.
"	John Bates	"	"	"
"	Mortimer Corey	"	"	"
"	William Gage	Winter	"	"
"	Jos. Amour, Nicholas Fraley, J. E. Smith and John Laing	From Nov. 20, 73 to 1st March, 74.	"	"
"	Wm. Staples and others	"	"	"
1875	Daniel McGwyne	Season.	"	Gill net fishing.
"	Beni. Foulds	"	"	"
"	Col. W. McGiverin	"	"	"
"	Mrs. A. Sherbenall	"	"	Seine
"	Daniel McGwyne	"	"	"
"	Col. H. B. Villiers, Col. Wm. Patten and Wm. McCulloch	"	"	"
"	Mortimer Corey	"	"	Gill net fishing.

10th instant to the 10th of May next, inclusive.

I have the honor to be, etc.,  
(Signed) W. F. WHITCHER,  
for the Hon. Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries.

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES,  
FISHERIES BRANCH,

OTTAWA, 29th January, 1874.

J. W. Kerr, Esq., Fishery Overseer, Hamilton,

SIR,—When the Minister returns to Ottawa, the petition of the Mayor and certain inhabitants of Hamilton against netting in Burlington Bay, together with your report thereon, will be submitted for his decision. Meanwhile, your attention is called to the fact that you omit to state if the time, from some indefinite period when the ice clears away down to the 5th May, during which licenses were heretofore granted, does or does not include the spawning season for pike in that locality, and whether or not the limits prescribed for netting comprise grounds resorted to by pike for spawning, and are or are not the principal and only grounds, and if not, are any spawning grounds still reserved to keep the waters of the Bay well stocked. These are the essential points.

I have the honor to be, etc.,  
(Signed) W. F. WHITCHER,  
for the Hon. Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries.

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES,  
FISHERIES BRANCH,

OTTAWA, 17th March, 1874.

To J. W. Kerr, Esq., Fisheries Overseer, Hamilton.

SIR,—Please receive under cover herewith a copy of the answer sent to certain petitions forwarded by the Mayors of Hamilton and Dundas. This will acquaint you with the Minister's views. I am further desired to call your attention to the fact that, although the Department has just now acquiesced in your suggestions as regards the issue of gill net licenses for pike, and reserves the permission to seine at the places mentioned by you, there is nevertheless a very decided inclination to view with some degree of favor the request of these petitioners. It is only because of the improved character of the net-fishing interest and those concerned that a more decided tendency to withdrawing the netting privileges, at least for the present time, has not prevailed.

Under these circumstances you will doubtless perceive the extreme propriety of exercising the indulgence granted, with a careful regard to the wants and wishes of others. If the net fishermen use their privilege with moderation, the effect may be in future to prove by its operation that both netting and angling are not only quite compatible with improvements in the fisheries around Hamilton, but are in respect of supplying local wants quite desirable to be continued on equal terms.

I have the honor to be, etc.,  
(Signed) W. F. WHITCHER,  
For the Hon. Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries.

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES—  
FISHERIES BRANCH,

OTTAWA, 24th March, 1874.

J. W. Kerr, Esq., Fishery Overseer, Hamilton

SIR: With reference to previous communications of 29th January and 17th instant, on the petitions asking that all kinds of netting be prohibited in Burlington Bay, I am to draw your special attention to the instructions given you in this matter. Fifteen gill net licenses have been allowed to be fished until 1st May next, but no other netting must be permitted in the bay, except under special licenses from this Department. As already stated in the letter to the petitioners, the Minister will make further inquiries as to the propriety of allowing seining on certain grounds where no injury whatever can arise to the fishing, but until such time as his decision is communicated to you with his directions to carry it out, you will rigidly enforce the restrictions above alluded to.

I have the honor, &c., &c.,  
(Signed) W. F. WHITCHER,  
for the Hon. Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries.

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES—  
FISHERIES BRANCH.

OTTAWA, 4th April, 1874.

J. W. Kerr, Esq., Fishery Overseer, Hamilton:

SIR,—I am to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 28th, in answer to a previous communication of the 24th ultimo, respecting the seizure of pike gill-nets at Burlington Bay.

" Nehemiah Corey...	"	"	"
" Dun. McGillivray...	From March 1 to May 1	"	"
" M. Corey .....	"	"	"
" Jonathan Corey...	"	"	"
" William Podkins...	"	"	"
" Alexander Rolla...	"	"	"
" Daniel McGwyne...	"	"	"
" John Taaffe...	"	"	"
" Morris Corey...	"	"	"
" Thos. Armstrong...	"	"	"
" Benjamin Foulds...	"	"	"
" David Fitch...	"	"	"
" Alexander Gray...	"	"	"
" F. N. Corey...	"	"	"
" Thomas Martin...	"	"	"
" Richard Taaffe...	"	"	"
" Daniel McGwyne...	From 1st April to 24th May.	"	"
" Mrs. A. Sherbenall...	"	"	"
" Chas. Abraham & N. F. Birely...	Season.	"	Seine fishing.
" John Taaffe...	"	"	"
" Benjamin Foulds...	From 1st April to 24th May.	"	"
" Benjamin Joice...	"	"	"
" William Podkins...	Season.	"	"
" Wm. Lottridge...	Month of April.	"	Gill net Fishing
" Jos. Gates...	"	"	"
" Jno. Taaffe Mortimer...	"	"	"
" Corey & Alex Rolla...	"	"	"
" Ephraim Williams...	"	"	"
" Duncan McGillivray...	"	"	"
" David Fitch...	"	"	"
" Mrs. A. Sherbenall...	4 April to 24th May.	"	"
" N. F. Birely, Wm A Newells and Thos Young...	Season.	"	Seine Fishing
" Col H B Villiers...	"	"	"
" Wm Patton and W McCullough...	"	"	"
" Daniel McGwyne...	"	"	"
" John Taaffe...	"	"	"
" David Fitch...	"	"	"
" Benjamin Foulds...	"	"	"
" Mortimer Corey...	"	"	"
" F. N. Corey...	"	"	"
" Daniel McGwyne...	"	"	"
" Nehemiah Corey...	2d Aug. to 14th Oct.	"	Set hauls Seines not to exceed 300 yds. and to be 2 1/2 inch in the meshes
" John Connor...	"	"	"
" Mortimer Corey...	"	"	"
" Benjamin Foulds...	"	"	"
" David Fitch...	"	"	"
" W. Podkins...	"	"	"
" John Taaffe...	"	"	"
" F. N. Corey...	"	"	"
" Jerry Hudson...	22d Jan to 15th March.	"	Spear'g
" Samuel Smoak...	"	"	"
" Aaron Boden...	"	"	"
" Joseph Thompson...	"	"	"
" Thomas Cross...	"	"	"
" Charles Cripps...	"	"	"
" Fred'k B. Harvey...	"	"	"
" Joseph Gates...	"	"	"
" C. Case...	"	"	"
" C. Lotman...	From 22nd Jan. to 15th March.	"	"
" Peter English...	"	"	"
" John Doyle...	"	"	"
" John McHenry...	"	"	"
" John Blain...	"	"	"
" John W Blain...	"	"	"
" Richard Nicholson...	"	"	"
" Fred. Morrison...	"	"	"
" Thomas Oliver...	"	"	"
" Elmer Alpress...	"	"	"
" Samuel Blows...	"	"	"
" William Clarke...	"	"	"
" William Rasberry...	"	"	"
" John Lyons...	"	"	"
" John Holmes...	"	"	"
" S. Chisholm...	"	"	"
" George Bent...	"	"	"
" Thomas Jones...	"	"	"
" John Bates...	"	"	"
" William Bates...	"	"	"
" George Lottridge...	"	"	"
" B. Crickmore...	"	"	"

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES,  
FISHERIES BRANCH,

OTTAWA, 11th April, 1872.

J. W. Kerr, Esq., Fishery Overseer, Hamilton.

SIR: Upon your recommendation and that of Mr. Wilnot, the Minister gives you authority to issue gill net licenses for the catching of pike in Burlington Bay and other parts of your division, where you may consider it advisable for the re-stocking of the streams. The dates of such permission to be from the

Having taken written admission of the offence, you have protected the Department, and there need be no further proceedings against the offending parties. But you must not overlook the fact that the issuing of these pike gill-net licenses was a matter waiting entirely the Minister's decision on a question of policy with regard to denying them altogether, as prayed for in two petitions, or adopting some other course. The fishermen should have been made to await this decision. As the matter looks now, the petitioners might fairly say that both you and the netters had prejudged the case.

I have the honor to be, etc.,  
(Signed) W. F. WHITCHER,  
for the Hon. Minister  
of Marine and Fisheries.

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES,  
FISHERIES BRANCH,

OTTAWA, 10th November, 1874.

J. W. Kerr, Esq., Fishery Overseer, Hamilton.

SIR: Reverting to your letter of 7th instant, you are authorized to make the necessary arrangements and secure proper assistance to prevent spearing on Burlington Bay; taking care to make the best arrangements possible, consistent with efficiency and economy.

I am, etc.,  
(Signed) W. F. WHITCHER,  
for the Hon. Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries.

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES,  
FISHERIES BRANCH,

OTTAWA, 4th January, 1875.

J. W. Kerr, Esq., Fishery Overseer, Hamilton.

SIR,—I am to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th ult., in which you recommend that "spearing through the ice in Burlington Bay be permitted between 31st December and the 1st day of March next, at the nominal sum of \$1," and in connection therewith to draw your attention to the memorial sent last year by anglers and others from Hamilton, urging increased protection for the fish of Burlington Bay.

You are aware that upon your recommendation a certain number of gill-net licenses for fishing were issued in a limited extent of the Bay, and that the petitioners were at the same time informed that spearing would be entirely discontinued.

Please state your reasons for recommending so sudden a departure from such recent action.

I have the honor to be, etc.,  
(Signed) W. F. WHITCHER,  
for the Hon. Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries.

OTTAWA, January 22, 1875.

Minister authorizes issue of permits for spearing in Burlington Bay to 1st March next.

(Signed) W. F. WHITCHER.

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES, FISHERIES BRANCH,

OTTAWA, 24th February, 1875.

J. W. Kerr, Esq., Fishery Overseer, Hamilton:

SIR,—The Minister consents to the time for spearing on Burlington Bay being extended until the 15th proximo.

I am, &c., &c.,  
(Signed) W. F. WHITCHER,  
For the Hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES—  
FISHERIES BRANCH,

OTTAWA, December 29th, 1875.

J. W. Kerr, Esq., Fishery Overseer, Hamilton.

SIR,—Your communication of 7th inst., in which you recommend that the permission granted last year of spearing through the ice in Burlington Bay be again granted this winter, has been considered. In view of the special circumstances reported in your letter, and considering the distress which you say

prevails among some of the Hamilton people who hitherto enjoyed this privilege, the Minister consents to spearing being carried on within the waters of Burlington Bay under special licenses from the 1st day of January to the 31st day of March, 1876, both days inclusive at the rate \$1 per license to each person.

I have the honor to be, etc.,  
(Signed) W. F. WHITCHER,  
for the Hon Minister of  
Marine or Fisheries.

*Omitted Names.*

1. John Anderson, —
  2. Charles Smith, —
  3. Charles Miles, —
  4. Wm. Raskewy, —
  5. M. Lyons, —
  6. Lewis Miles, —
  7. Edward Stousscoe, —
  8. Thomas Oliver, —
  9. James B. Smith, —
  10. James Kelke, —
  11. Geo. J. Pinkley, —
  14. Nov. 1872. —
- John W. Kerr*  
J. O.

*50/10/2*  
*4/10/2*  
*1/10/2*  
*19/60*

*20*  
*22*  
*24*  
*26*  
*28*  
*30*  
*31*  
*1972*



Sir,

24. April 1876.

I have the honor to report, that on Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> inst. Messrs J. H. Corey, Jacob Corey, and Andrew Dougall, fishermen - B. Beach, went out in a boat on Lake Ontario, to fish up, and did fish up, white fish gill nets, and did catch four trout, and two wh. fish, in contravention of the fishing act. - -

I had them brought before James Bohile Esq<sup>r</sup> J. P. and myself on Thursday last, when they plead guilty, were fined two dollars each, including costs; say \$6.15 each, which was paid. -

These cases being nipped in the bud (early in the season) will I am sure have a good effect for the remainder of this year. -

With due respect,

Yours faithfully,  
H. H. H.  
Attorney

I Have &c,  
John W. Kerr  
J. A.

Wednesday, 26. April 1876. -

At St. Catharines, received from Jas. A. Miller Esq<sup>r</sup> Peninsula Fish and Game Club \$20, for license for the current year. - went out at 8. a. m. came in at 6. p. m. Miles 72, Railway fare \$2.20, dinner 40.

Inspector Kerr has, we understand, had the houses of a number of persons, suspected of violating the fishery laws, searched. The nets and fish being found therein, in contravention of the fisheries act, the parties are under bonds to appear before the Police Magistrate at 9 a. m. on Saturday next. It is supposed that some of the nets are stolen property—chiefly from licensed fishermen.



Sir,

24. April 1876.

I have the honor to report, that on Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> instant, in east Glamorgan, on B. Bay, I captured 3 pike, and a spear, after a chase of  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile. -

The case is this, I observed a man leave a boat, and take 3 pike therefrom, while a boy - carried a spear - two of my sons who were with me - gave chase by my direction, when the Sabbath breaker fled, and being hard pressed dropped the spear and pike, the fish were alive when found. -

I have my suspicion of the two persons but cannot prove it yet.

With due respect.

I Have &c

John W. S. S.

Hon. Minister

& . & . & .

Thursday, 27. April 1876. -

On B. beach. David Titch - paid me \$2, for pike gill net fishing - thence up the beach to the hauling ground in the Bay - found all correct. Dan McDermott, told me the Silurian caught and sold pike this year. Saw one of them spearing in Kerry pond - Dan would not prosecute. - got 2 dozen of Herring - from him at  $\frac{50}{4}$ .  
Went out at 6. p. m. came in at 11. p. m. till 24  
\$4.00  $\frac{74}{3}$  2.00. Had  $\frac{1}{2}$  Ken with me. -

Sir,

27. April 1876. -

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank cheque No. 107 for the sum of Thirty eight dollars, and  $\frac{84}{100}$  Cents. -

207. Will you be pleased to apply this amount for this current year as follows;

No. 1. Mrs Anna Sherburnelle - Storing gill net license at B. beach - on apt.	1.50.
2. Joseph Yates, Pike gill net license in B. bay, in full.	4.00.
3. John Bates, do, do, do,	3.00.
4. S. P. Stipe & boy, do, do, do,	4.00.
5. Ric. Zaaffe & boy, on apt, do, do,	3.00.
6. D. McGillivray & boy, do, do, do,	2.00.
7. Albert Harris, on apt, do, do,	1.34.
8. The President - Joseph A. Woodruff Esq $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Peninsula Fish and Game Club of St. Catherine's - License to be the same as last year.	20.00
Total	\$38.84

With due respect

I have &c

John W. Kent

D.O.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister

of, of, of,

Mr. Dewart - P.S. - Will send Copies of licenses Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 - when balance are paid up - and I'll remit to you the same.

Af

J. W. Kent

D.O.

Sir,

25. April 1876.

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque No: 204,  
for the sum of fifty one dollars. - - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as  
follows: -

No: 1.	John Anderson, and ten others, spearing in Burlington bay - at the Straits, sent now, as I have nothing to shew I have not already done so. - - -	11.00.
2.	Barney D. Rule, Spearing in ditto, -	1.00
3.	Wm Henry Waterbury during the year -	1.00
4.	Wm. Brayley. - 1875. -	1.00
5.	Shipman Cummings. - do.	1.00
6.	George Binkley. - do.	1.00
7.	James Hurman - for license to fish in Lake Ontario, between the gap, and Leslieville, in front of Ashbridges bay, already received, countersigned and delivered. -	10.00.
8.	Wm. Montgomery, for license to fish pike gill nets, in Ashbridges bay, same as last year. -	10.00.
9.	Levi Marsh, for license to fish in Ashbridges bay &c, same as last year. -	10.00.
10.	Fred <sup>d</sup> Shaffer, for license to fish in Lake Ontario, at Port Credit, commencing at the Centre Road, thence west to the townline the same being in the township of Toronto, -	5.00
Total. \$		<u>51.00</u>

With much respect

I Have &c

John W. Kerr  
J.W.

Wm. Christie

&c. &c. &c.  
I have,

Sir,

24, April 1876. -

I have the honor to report, that on the 13<sup>th</sup> instant, in Lands bay - a part of B. bay - I seized about 200 yds of pike gill net illegally set there - and on Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> instant in Kerr's pond - another portion of B. bay - I grappled for, and seized upwards of 250 yards of pike gill net, illegally set therein. - -

Kerr's pond is set apart by proclamation for the natural, and artificial propagation of fish. -

The net I found in Kerr's pond had 3. pike, 3. suckers - and one half therein. - The net I found in Lands bay - had no fish in them. -

So far, I am unable to find owners for these gill nets. -

With due respect

I have the

John W. Kerr

Sir,

Hon. Minister

4. 4. 4.

Ottawa,

Friday 28, April 1876. -

At the Island - Toronto, chance to David Woods - respecting his license - saw James Dorman explained to him - that his fishery license did not include the Bend nor any part of the bay, - gave Pat Gray his license - he owes me still \$30 - Mr Doyle paid me \$12. for John Morley, - and Patrick Gray - paid me \$10. for Wm Sturdy, - went out at 8, a.m. came in at 4.50. p.m. miles 48. - By fare 1.30, dinner tea and bed 75. Boat 50. -



Sir.

25. April 1876. -

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque No: 204, for the sum of fifty one dollars. ---

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows: -

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1. John Anderson - and ten others, spearing in B. bay, at the Straits, of which I have no previous acct   | \$211.00  |
| 2. Barney D. Rice - spearing in B. bay  | 1.00.     |
| 3. Wm J. Waterbury.   | 1.00.     |
| 4. Hie: Grayley. -  | 1.00.     |
| 5. Shipman Cummings -   | 1.00.     |
| 6. George Binkley -   | 1.00.     |
| 7. James Durman - for license to fish in Lake Ontario, in front of Ashbridges bay - license already received and delivered. -   | 10.00.    |
| 8. Wm Montgomery, for license to fish in Ashbridges bay - same as last year. -  | 10.00.    |
| 9. Lee: Marsh - for license to fish in Ashbridges bay - same as last year. -  | 10.00.    |
| 10. Fred: Shefes - for license to fish in Lake Ontario, at Mt Credit, commencing at the Centre Rd. thence west to the townline - the same being in the township of Toronto. - | 5.00      |
| Total.  | \$ 51.004 |

With due respect,

I Have &c.

John W. Kent -  
D. O.

For: Minister,  
H. H. H.

C. H. H.

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 25<sup>th</sup> instant received, and in reply I have much pleasure in sending you herewith a copy of a letter which I received from Mr. J. Whitaker, Commissioner - for the Hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries which I hope will be a satisfactory answer to your application. - -

Should any person who avails himself of this privilege catch a Salmon - he must instantly return him again back to the stream. - -

Yrs Respectfully,

John W. Kerr  
Y. O.

Wm. Barker Esq  
Steelesville,  
Onto.

Stamilton, 27. April 1876.

# Saturday 29. April 1876. -

at Toronto Island - the City, and Port Credit; thence home, saw Jas J. Malloy - who informed me he had summoned up four persons for catching suckers in River Credit, at Springfield - but did not appear against them - they paid him \$10 - towards a license fee, and Patchet - had promised to pay him \$5, also - -

Read my instructions to him, for catching pike in River Credit, and that Billy Montgomery, was coming up there on Monday, and I would send license for him. - also read the letter of permission for catching suckers. -

Went out at 6.30. a.m. came in at 4.30. p.m. Mile 48, Ry fare 1.30, breakfast and dinner 50¢, Boat 50¢ - -

Sir,

29. April 1876.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 1876, - containing a copy of my acct from 1<sup>st</sup> of January to 31<sup>st</sup> of March 1876, - amounting to £88.74 of

Against this you are pleased to say: £149.27 of stands. I find however, the whole of this £88.74 is my hard earned property, and no amount whatever stands against it, nor against me in this matter. -

I have also the honor to receive your second letter of the 20. of April 1876, containing a copy of my acct from 1<sup>st</sup> of October, to 31<sup>st</sup> of December 1875, amounting to £220.73 of against this, £200, dollars stands. -

Thus! - on 23. of October 1875. - 100,

" " 24. of November 1875. - 100, Total £200. - advanced for to enable me to proceed to Owen Sound, and the Georgian Bay - by your orders - on special duty, leaving in this instance £20.73 of still due - and in my favour. -

You will therefore please find that the sum of £109.74 of is still due me in full, and you will be so good as to send me <sup>a cheque for</sup> this amount. -

Then you sent me on the 11<sup>th</sup> not the 7<sup>th</sup> of December 1875, a sum of £140. to pay fishing frauds; against this you will please find:

Voucher No. 1, in duplicate, Messrs Smith,	£130.00
" " 2, do, Joseph Moon,	£10.00
Total,	£140.00

Which will balance the acct.

With due respect

W. J. Whitche Esq  
Comr. of Fishery  
for the Hon. Minister.  
H. H. H. Ottawa.

I have &c  
John W. Storr  
J. O.

Sir,

29. April 1876.

ad. I have the honor to send you herewith a postal card, addressed to me by some unknown person, also a letter addressed to the Editor of the mail Toronto. ---

I have examined, and now report that Pike gill nets are not illegally set in any of the ponds nor channels of Toronto bay, as therein referred to, hauling for suckers is being carried on by Ward at the head, and by Gray at the point. ---

In Black house bay, Mr P Gray has a few pieces of gill net set for pike, he caught about 6 dozen this season. --- And in no case are the nets set illegally. --- With due respect

I have the

Hon. Minister

H. H. H.

Ottawa

John W. Kerr

D.O.

My dear Sir,

In answer to your enquiry, as to whom you should pay your license fee, for this current year, please send the money to me, you live in my division and your Lake hauling ground, is in my division - Mr. Law, wont say anything to you for sending it to me, and Mr Backhouse should attend to his own business. - With kind regards. -

Yours truly,

John W. Kerr

D.O.

29. April 1876.

Mr Henry Robt.  
Port Maitland,

P.S. Who is Mr Evans. ---



Sir,

1<sup>st</sup> May 1876. *Atc*

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank  
Cheque, No. 1, for the sum of \$20.00.

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
for this current year, as follows, and send me  
their licenses. -

- 1, John Morley - of Leslieville, license to be the  
same as last year, - in Lake Ontario, - \$10.00.
- 2, William Hardy - license to fish in Ash-  
bridges bay - East Toronto, same as last year 10.00.

Total - \$20.00.

With due respect,

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr  
T.O.

#

Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> May 1876. -

At Suspension Br: Fort Erie - down the Niagara River  
to Black Creek - thence to Niagara - received \$5.00  
from Ed: Everett, see application for license, came down  
the River - from Victoria to Wellandbury in a boat, rowed  
by John Everett. Heard about illegal fishing, - went  
out at 6 A.M. came in at 8 P.M. - went by way  
of Buffalo. - Riff gave, 3.75, Boat hire - 50, Miles 103.  
Dinner, tea, and bed 75. - Heard - illegal fishing  
was carried on in the 16. Mile pond. - - - \$5.00 +

Sir

3 May 1876.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank cheque No. 51, for the sum of Thirty dollars. --

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for this current year, as follows; and send me licenses to counter sign. --

1. John Morley, of Leslieville - license to be the same as last year, in Lake Ontario.  $\frac{\$}{10.00}$

2. William Sturdy - to fish in Ashbridges Bay, East Toronto, to be the same as last year. --  $\frac{\$}{10.00}$

3. Edward Everitt of Willoughby - for license to fish in the Niagara River, between Decews Hill and the West end of Jacob Everitt's farm (deceased) in the County of Holland. --  $\frac{\$}{5.00}$

4. Col. St. B. Villiers - license to fish in Lake Ontario, at St. Beach, same as last year. --  $\frac{\$}{5.00}$

Total,  $\frac{\$}{30.00}$

With due respect

I remain

The Hon. Minister

H. H. H.

Ottawa,

John W. Kerr

S.O.

\* Tuesday, 2 May 1876. -

At Niagara, Greenston, Suspension Bridge, Hammondville and home. - saw Mr. Corwin - who explained for Jonas Green, James Malone and himself, about the fishery licenses. W. A. Thompson, Esq. Mr. P. - applied for, - went out at 7.30 a.m. came in at 6 p.m. - Miles 65, Ry fare 1.75, St. B. 2.10, breakfast and dinner 50, Cab 35, - - - Mr. Villiers paid me 5, for license fee on St. Beach - of their fishery -  $\frac{\$}{4.70}$

Sir

27. April 1876.

I have the honor to receive Mr. Jas. A. Miller's letter of the 19<sup>th</sup> instant, with your instructions to report thereon.

In reply I have the honor to report, that Mr. Jas. A. Miller states an untruth, for last year, I applied for license on the 26<sup>th</sup> June, please see cheque No. 79. - and a copy of my note of 23 July last to Sheriff Woodruffe, herewith, will convince you of the truth of my assertion. -

Unless they pay - which they are bound to do under the Regulations in Council, and your orders to the effect, they cannot enjoy the fishery limits applied for. -

Mr. Miller, in conversation on yesterday wanted to have included in the license this year, a bar in Lake Ontario, about 3 miles out from Port Dalhousie running from there west 8 miles, as far up as the 16 mile Creek, for gill net fishing, but this I cannot recommend because the present license contains more than originally asked for, or ever expected from the department. - I know all about this bar, I intend it, for some industrious fisherman, when he applies for a license. - White fish, and Salmon Trout abound on it, for the last four years. -

By another letter of the date you will please find \$20, license fee, for this current year, to be the same as last year. -

With due respect,

I am Sir,

John W. Kent  
D.O.

Hon. Minister  
J. H. H.  
Ottawa,

Postage 4¢.

Sir,

29. April 1876.

I have the honor to submit for your information, and consideration, a letter I received a few days ago from Mr. Wm. Barber, M. P. P., - and a letter from Mr. Thomas Star-  
ris, residents of Starbottle, a village on the River Credit, about ten miles from Port Credit, and warm advocates of our fisheries and fishery laws. - - -

With reference to people catching suckers, and in this stream during the spring run - for family use, I explained to a mutual friend of those gentlemen for theirs, and for public information your permission of the 17<sup>th</sup> of March last, granting farmers and others leave to catch suckers, mullets, &c. for their own use, without a license, &c. &c. &c. - - -

On my return from Toronto Island, this morning, I stepped off at Port Credit, to see Mr. James G. Wilcox, the local fishery officer there, who informed me he had summonsed persons up before Thomas King Esq. J. P. Springfield; "for catching suckers in the River Credit, at Springfield" - but he did not appear against them; four of them agreeing to, and paid him - ten dollars, for the privilege of catching those fish for sale. - - -

Their names are Duncan Turple <sup>2.50</sup>, James Mines <sup>2.50</sup>, Isaiah Halliday <sup>2.50</sup>, and James W. Cook <sup>2.50</sup>, total ten dollars. -

I directed Wilcox to retain the money, for the present, until I communicated with you, and I heard from you, your decision respecting the disposition of this \$10. -

In any case this scoop net fishing for suckers, &c. must be stopped altogether on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May, altogether, so that the half close season, shall not be infringed upon, water being so high this spring, I expect a big run of this fish. -

Respectfully Submitted.

Yours sincerely,  
H. H. H.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
J. W.



Copy -

Part of Lake Ontario, beginning at Port Dalhousie, and including the waters of 12, 15, and 16 mile Creeks, to extend 200 yards from East pier, 100 yards from West pier, and 200 yards in frontage of Welland Canal or 12 mile Creek. -- On Condition that no nets of any kind be used within such limits. The Club moreover binding itself to guard and protect the above waters at its own private cost. --

Sent license under Cove to Sheriff Woodruff,  
Wrote John Hand, postage 6¢  
Postages to Toronto 5¢, Lakeshore 1¢, Credit 2¢

The President, Directors and Members of the Peninsula  
Fish and Game Club, St. Catharines.  
Gentlemen -

Will you be pleased to find  
herewith your Annual license, as described by  
you for this current year, from the Fisheries  
Department Ottawa.

I am gentlemen  
your obedient servant  
John W. Kerr  
S.O.

Hamilton, Ont.  
5 May 1876.

4  
Telegraph 15.

Thursday. 4. May 1876.

at Jordan to see Richard Gilbert, and apprise him of the  
Moose chase season - also to enquire about persons fishing  
illegally in 16 mile Creek, gave license for the current  
year to Pat's Hand - for self and brother. went  
out at 8. a.m. came in at 6. p.m. Miles 66. -  
dinner 25. Rif fare 1.60. -

My dear Sir:

Please receive the Minister's reply to my report of 29, of April last, and do govern yourself in all particulars therein accordingly. - Believe me - Yours truly,

John W. Kerr  
T.O.

Mr Jas: G. Wilcox,  
Port Credit.

6 May 1876.

Sir:

6 May 1876.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank Cheques No: 10, for the sum of \$23. dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for this current season, as follows: -

1. Mr Isaac Michener - for license in Lake Erie, at the Bolton ditch, same as last year. - - - \$5.00
  2. Mr John Everett, of Victoria village town-ship of Martie - for fishing in the Niagara River, - to be the same as last year, in full, 15.00.
  3. Mr Jonathan Corey, H. Coy. - (that is W. H. Bates) for license to fish pike gill nets, in B. bay near B. beach on apt for season just ended. 3.00
- Total, \$23.00

With due respect

I have &c.

John W. Kerr  
T.O.

At: Minister,

H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

Sir —

11. May 1876.

I have the honor to report, that I have succeeded since last Friday in capturing and seizing about 1300 yards of pike gill nets, fished in B. Bay, in prohibited parts of it, by unlicensed fishermen. —

The cases are fixed for trial on Saturday next, at which I will require the assistance of a legal gentleman. —

May I employ one to prosecute for me, and who may I employ? —

With due respect,

I Have &c

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

Mr. Minister.

H. H. H.

P.S. please telegraph me on receipt

J. W. Kerr  
J. O.

15. May 1876. — as follows:

Licenses — for Col: St. B. Villiers — Hamilton,

" " John Morley, Leslieville

" " Isaac Machines, Low Banks. —

" " John Everitt, Port Erie

" " Wm Hardy — to Pat Gray — S. Island

Case of James Burns Esq<sup>r</sup> Merchant, Market St<sup>y</sup>  
Toronto

Edward Everitt, Willoughby

Black Creek, N.O.

postages 6¢

postages 25¢

Sir,

13 May 1876.

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque No: 19, for the sum of \$25. dollars. —

This amount you will please apply as follows; for this Current year. —

1, Colonel Wm Patton, for a fishing license in Lake Ontario, at B. beach, the same as last year. \$ 5.00¢

2, Benjamin Folds - B. beach, on acct of fishing license for Current year. — 10.00.

3, David McWynne, B. beach, on acct of fishing license for Current year. — 10.00.

Total \$25.00¢

With due respect

I have &c

John W. Keck  
D.C.

Hon. Minister

H. H. H.,  
Ottawa,

\* Tuesday, 9. May 1876. —

On B. bay - at the Heights - John Divine, and Charles John Kerr with me, - searched for, and found two gill nets in front of Carrolls point, - out all night, went out at 7. p.m. Came in at 7. a.m., miles about 18, Boat, Horse and buggy. — 2.50 —

Wednesday 10. May 1876. —

\* Getting information, and hunting up for same, got out search warrants for to search for gill nets, illegally in use, ag<sup>t</sup> Tom X, Samuel Blows, Ike Blows, Bob McCarroll, and John Hennings - found nets and fish in Tom X, where Sam Blows stops, also with Ike Blows, and John Hennings; - at the Heights, saw Chris. Case, and made arrangement with him. - went out at 9. a.m. Came in at 8. p.m. miles 14. \$4 B. 2.00.



Thursday 11, May 1876. -

Getting out summonses for witnesses; and hunting evidence, - went on the bay, Chris' Case with me, but we found nothing; went out at 9, a.m. came in at 12, p.m. Midnight - miles 20, <sup># 2</sup> H & B. 2.00 Boat. -

Friday 12, May 1876. -

at B. Steights; - Carrolls point - B. beach, and Saltfleet. - served John Bratt, Chris' Case, Mr Sarah Springstead, and Hartman Springstead, and <sup>with</sup> little with Witness summonses to appear at 5 Tom X and others on Saturday 13. at 9, a.m. served them personally - and gave each half a dollar, (for attending Court, Tom gave paid me off 5, Dave, (Mr) McFryne, gave me 10, and Ben. Golds gave me \$10 on a set of license fee for current year. - went out at 9, a.m. came in at 7, p.m. miles 30, <sup># 4</sup> H & B. 3.00 including holes, &c. &c. -

Saturday 13, May 1876. -

at Police Court, all the witnesses appeared, and the Case agt Thomas Goff - was disposed of, and he was fined 12, and Costs. - Thence to the Steights to put Case on the watch again. - Bill,

Sunday 14, May 1876.

at the Steights: searching for gill nets in Bay. found none, went out at 6, p.m. came in at 12. miles 20, Boat, Horse & B. - boustable Dine Chris' Case, and G. J. Kerr, with me - for boat 25. - and warning witnesses to attend the trial at the Police Court, the next day, - H & B. 2.

\* Wednesday, 17, May 1876. -

At the Police Court, John Stanning, - Ike Blows, and Robert McCardle, were up for fishing for, catching and killing pike with gill nets in B. bay. - without a license - McCardle, and Stanning - pleaded guilty - Blows - fought it out - see reports - sent the department, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 4. p. m. - Miles 10, St & B. <sup>\$1.50</sup> - to convey the gill nets to and from Police Court - and to bring up witnesses. Stanning and Robert Little were in attendance, Frank MacKalean Esq. D. C. appeared and prosecuted for the Fisheries department. - - -

\* Friday 19, May 1876.

At Thompsons Boat House - thence to W. J. Jago, myself and Fred <sup>K</sup> Kerr. in a boat - got John Divine and Charles J. Kerr - there - thence across the Bay - to Kerr's pond, - saw Thomas Joyce - hauling - found naught. went out at 6. p. m. came in at 4. a. m. Miles 30, Boat, Horse and Waggow. - - - 2.00

\* Thursday 18, May 1876, -

at Monona - found all regular, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 4. p. m. Miles 30, St & B. 3.00.

\* Monday 22, May 1876. - - -

On B. beach - gave notices - around - about White fish being - gave two to David Yitch - and two to J. H. Carey - and two for the Ocean House - went out at 4. p. m. came in at 9. p. m. - Miles 24, St. and Buggy. <sup>2.00</sup> -

† Tuesday, 23, May 1876. -

At Toronto, thence to Port Union, and Frenchman's Bay - saw Thomas Mansfield - Salisbury Wright, Bell Chambers - John Fisher, and Joe Black. - the Contractors who are repairing the Harbour at Frenchman's Bay - were complained of, for dumping the stuff, dredged from the Harbour, outside on the hauling ground damaging it, to some extent. - explained the law about the White fish Seining. - fixed license fees, but I have to wait for the money, back to Port Union. - went out at 8. a.m. came in 7.30 p.m. Miles about 80. Ry fare  $1.20 + 55$ . Horse and Ry  $1.50$ . dinner, tea and bed  $75$ . -  $\$4.00$   $\$5.20$   ~~$\$4.00$~~

† Wednesday, 24, May 1876. -

at Port Union, Toronto and Hamilton - went out at 8.50, came in at 4.30 p.m. - Miles 60 - Ry fare  $1.20 + 55$  - breakfast and dinner  $50$ . -  $\$2.25$

† Saturday 27, May 1876. -

On M. beach found all regular. - J. H. Corey - had just made a haul - he had a splendid black haff - which on seeing me - he returned to the May again. - Mr Neville's - Ocean House, whose seine - was stolen - told me privately of a conversation he had overheard of Ike Blows and Tom x stealing my boat and his seine - Tom x said he knew where they were - and both were together. - Tom Jones paid me  $1.35$ , Ellis Stabbis  $\$1$ . - Sam Dynes  $\$2.00$  for pike gill net licenses. - went out at 5.30 p.m. Miles 24. Ry B.  $2.50$ . C. J. Ken with me. - gave Mr Benton a ride as far home as Benton street. -

Sir,

29. Sep. 1877.

In continuation of my report of the 21<sup>st</sup> instant, made by me to you respecting the Niagara gill net fishermen catching young White fish in Lake Ontario Township of Niagara, to which not receiving the reply I then asked for; I proceeded to Niagara on last Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> instant, and after enquiries made by me, I ascertained that Mess<sup>rs</sup> John Bolton, Charles Bolton, Charles and Albert Mace, fishermen, and residents in the Town of Niagara, had fished up their gill nets, set for catching Ciscos; These gill nets of 3" inches extension measure were fished up on the morning of the 20<sup>th</sup> of September instant, and amongst the Ciscos caught then, they acknowledged as per statement herewith attached that they caught and sold young White fish. -- The law gives me no other alternative than to prosecute them for the offence they have committed, this I done to guard against future offences of a like nature, after advising and consulting with Mess<sup>rs</sup> Kerby Esq<sup>r</sup> J. P. Niagara, on the subject. --

Also it does not appear by the admission attached that the offence was often repeated, I am led to believe it was; Mess<sup>rs</sup> Kerby states that he saw young White fish, on the Steam boat Wharf, Niagara, 3, or 4 times; supposed to be there for shipping to Toronto. --

The only place where these young white fish were caught, is in the Canadian waters of Lake Ontario, say: about four miles from the mouth of the Niagara River, and about 3 miles, off the 4 Mile Point, Township of Niagara. -- They were caught in 30. fathom water, and as close to the River Current, as the fishermen can only at certain seasons set their gill nets; and the closer or nearer to the current, the nets are set, the greater number of young White fish and other fishes they will catch there. --

I may here state for your information, that whenever the Wind blows fresh from the South, the Niagara River water, is forced by the waves of the Lake water back, on the River water, and the Lake water being then very well mixed, very clear, then is the sweetest and best



time for to set and catch these young white fish, and other fishes. -- How this is a matter so well and so notoriously known to these fishermen; That a repetition of this offence can always be avoided by them. -- The remedy is altogether in their own hands, and in the late contravention committed by them, it could have been guarded against by them, and avoided altogether, if their disposition led them to do so. -- If they had not set the gill nets so close to the Current, where the fish feed on schrimps and small shell fish, the wind blowing from the favourable point at the time, they would most certainly not have caught these young white fish, and consequently could not possess them nor sell them. --

These fishermen, can always avoid the evil, by not setting bisco gill nets there, and do right and legal in this matter at all times, just by going down the Lake, half, or even a quarter of a mile further away from this river current, when they will catch none. --

Whenever the wind blows from the East, it drives the River water down the Lake. -- It would be no use then, to set there, if they desired to catch small white fish. The white fish caught on the occasion referred to, were sold for 3¢ each, to the Pedlars, who had their profits while the biscos brought only 1¢ each. --

The Magistrate had no scruples in imposing a small fine on each defendant, and costs, for the contravention they had been guilty of, under the 9 sub section of Section 13, of the Fisheries Act, -- Still he, and I, considered it advisable that this was a case that should before imposing fines, be submitted for advice, your consideration and adjudication first had and obtained. --

As Mr. Kerby the Magistrate will write you on the subject, perhaps as regards the law in the case. --

I considered it my duty to give you the foregoing facts.

My info stated that Bolton caught them 3 or 4 times  
Balls twice. I have &c  
H. Minister, & John W. Law J. O.

Copy,

The two Mr. Malls, and the two Mr. Boltons plead, guilty to the charge laid by the Fishery Overseer, - to the effect that at Niagara, on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 1877, they catch, possess, and sell young white fish, in contravention of the Fisheries Act. ---

But state in extenuation of the charge, that they are fishermen engaged regularly in the business of fishing at Niagara, that they had set proper gill nets, for the taking of Herring in Lake Ontario, and that on lifting their nets, to wit, The two Mr. Malls, found the number of One Hundred and Seventeen White fish, and the two Mr. Bolton Seventy fish. ---

It was only two occasions they found White fish, being dead - they sold them to various parties for 3¢ each.

They had no intention of violating the law, and considered that they could not throw the White fish back into the Lake - as that would also they suppose be a violation of the Fisheries Act. ---

Taken before me at Niagara, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of September 1877. ---

Wm. Kerby. J. P.

My dear Sir,

Yours received, I will be down early next week, and do everything I hope to your satisfaction. ---

The present storm, will soon stir up the Salmon. ---

When I come, I will fix about the boat, in the mean time, take a look round. - What about Saw dust, and Mill rubbish. -

John Gordon Esq  
Wulff's Creek.

Yrs Sincerely, -

John W. Kent  
D.O.

4<sup>th</sup> Oct: 1877.

\* Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> October 1877. ---

At Toronto, and Toronto Island, found all regular, - went out at 8. a. m. came in at 1. p. m. -  
Miles 45. - Railway fare 1.00, - dinner tea and bed 75, -  
Boat hire 50. - ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~1.00~~ <sup>1.00</sup> Total 3.25

\* Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October 1877. -

At Toronto Island, Toronto, and over the lake to Niagara, to make enquiry about the Niagara fishermen setting and fishing gill nets in the mouth of the Niagara River - saw all the fishermen and Mr George Wagner, American fisherman at Youngstown, United States - took statements from them so as to make my report.  
Boat hire 50, Breakfast 50, dinner, tea and bed 75  
Steamer fare \$1.00. Miles 40, - ditto 25,

Saw the Hon: John Simpson at Mr Elliot's  
Niagara, - Total \$3.00

My dear Wilcox--

This present blow will send Salmon into the River Credit - if there is any Salmon in Lake Ontario. - So please be on the alert, I had a long letter from the Barber, Brothers, Streetsville, who deny in toto putting dye stuffs in River Credit, - as for Mr Turner, getting half pay for the job may constructed by him at Spring field, - I will see you and him about it next week. - What have Beattie, Barber, and Gooderham done about this. - With my respects,

Yrs &c

John W. Kerr

T.O.

4<sup>th</sup> Oct: 1877.

Jas. J. Wilcox Esq

T.O.

Post Credit

Saturday, 6. October 1877.

at Niagara, Toronto and home - all regular  
Steam boat hire \$1.00, dinner <sup>75</sup> 25, Railway  
fare <sup>75</sup> 1.00, Breakfast <sup>25</sup> 25, ~~84~~ <sup>4</sup> 1.00, Miles 86.





# Assessment.

On the Mountain . . . 401,671,  
 Below the Mountain, 304,418,  
Total \$ 706,089.

Amount Required to be  
 Raised: —  
 County Rate, \$ 2720.70  
 Township Rate . . 767.94  
 School Rate . . 423.00  
\$ 3911.64

#  
 1/2 of in the \$ 706.089  
 3530.45,

Varren license, 242.00

On Hand . . 250.00 # 4

4022.45 or 110.81 more

than required, to which add  
 Non Resident Tax

23 Aug 1875 J. W. Kerr

# BURLINGTON BAY AND DUNDAS MARSH.

On Thursday Hon. Mr. Mackenzie brought down to the House from the Fisheries Department a Return in answer to an Address that had been moved by Mr. Bain, of North Wentworth, for copies of all correspondence containing information relative to licenses issued by the local Fishery Inspector for fishing in Burlington Bay and the Dundas Marsh during the years 1872-3-4-and-5. No great amount of information is to be derived from the return, which covers a number of pages, but a reference to its general contents may be interesting. The names of the persons to whom licenses for gill, seine, and set-haul net fishing, and for spearing, for those four years, are given as follows:

B. Foulds, Jonathan Corey, Sam. Jones, Mrs. M. Martin, Benjamin Joyce, John Taafe, Daniel McGwyn, William Podkins, George Hall, Charles Shears, Nicholas Fraley, Charles Pinon, Joseph Amour, Thos. Jones, John Bates, Mortimer Corey, Alexander Rolla & Co., Nathaniel Jones, S. E. Gregory, Colonel W. McGiverin, Thomas Joyce, William Gage, Thomas Martin, Mrs. Ann Sherbenel, N. F. Birely, J. B. Smith, John Lang, William Staples, Colonel H. B. Villiers, Colonel William Patton, William McCulloch, Nehemiah Corey, Duncan McGillivray, Morris Corey, Thomas Armstrong, David Fitch, Alexander Gray, F. N. Corey, Richard Taafe, Charles Abraham.

There is also a series of letters anent fishing in the Bay generally. One dated April 11th, 1872, gives authority to the Overseer to issue licenses for the catching of pike, "in order to re-stock for fish." Both in that Spring and the following one of 1873 it will be remembered that vast quantities of fish fresh from the nets in the Bay were displayed almost daily on the Hamilton Fish Market. To such an extent was this the case that an outcry was raised against it, for it was a fact that many of the fish were totally lost for want of customers to buy and use them. The fear was that the pike in the Bay would be killed off, or so reduced in numbers that the sport would be destroyed.

At that time there was some talk that an attempt was to be made to convert the Bay and Marsh into salmon breeding grounds. The idea was considered by many persons to be impracticable, and petitions against the destruction of the pike were circulated in Hamilton and Dundas and sent to Ottawa. From the date of their reception onwards the Minister endeavored to shape his instructions to Mr. Kerr so as to meet, as far as possible, the wishes of the petitioners, and Mr. Kerr, in carrying out what he deemed best, was able to point out several matters which also had weight with the Department.

On the 29th of January, 1874, a letter was sent from Ottawa to Mr. Kerr, informing him of the chief points in the prayer of the petitioners of the "Mayor and inhabitants of Hamilton," who wished that the permission for netting in the Bay should be withdrawn and not again granted. It may be said parenthetically that none of Mr. Kerr's correspondence appears in the return.

A letter from the Department, dated 17th March, 1874, giving Mr. Kerr instructions with regard to netting licenses, says that the Minister is inclined to grant the prayer of the petition and refuse the licenses, which it was announced would be withdrawn unless the fishermen and others to whom they were issued, acted in accordance with the instructions in their permits. The letter closes with the following paragraph:

"Under these circumstances you will doubtless perceive the extreme propriety of exercising the indulgence granted with a careful regard to the wants and wishes of others. If the net fishermen use their privilege with moderation, the effect may be in future to prove by its operation that both netting and angling are not only quite compatible with improvements in the fisheries around Hamilton, but are in respect of supplying local wants quite desirable to be continued on equal terms."

A letter to the Overseer, dated 24th March, 1874, forbids the issuing of any more licenses "netting in the Bay" except under special order from the Department. It adds:

"As already stated in the letter to the petitioners (the Mayor and inhabitants of Hamilton and Dundas), the Minister will make further inquiries as to the propriety of allowing seining on certain grounds when no injury whatever can arise to the fishing."

In the meantime fifteen permits were disposed of. On these being reported to the Department, a letter dated April 4, 1874, was sent to the Overseer, in which the following is a paragraph:

But you must not overlook the fact that the issuing of these pike gill-net licenses was a matter waiting entirely the Minister's decision on a question of policy with regard to denying them altogether, as prayed for in two petitions, or adopting some other course. The fishermen should have been made to await this decision. As the matter looks now, the petitioners might fairly say that both you and the netters had prejudged the case.

In acknowledging a letter asking permission to issue spearing licenses in 1875, the Minister, under date of Jan. 4, 1875, asks:

You are aware that, upon your recommendation, a certain number of gill-net licenses for pike fishing were issued in a limited extent of the Bay, and that the petitioners were at the same time informed that spearing would be entirely discontinued. Please state your reasons for recommending so sudden a departure from such recent action.

The advice of the Overseer was evidently adopted, however, for a telegram, dated Jan. 22, was sent, authorizing him to issue permits for spearing in the Bay until the 1st of March, and again the time was extended until the 15th.

The following letter, dated December 29th, 1875, which closes the correspondence, manifests the wish of the Department to do all it could to alleviate the distress which has been reported as existing last winter. It says: "Your communication of the 7th inst., in which you recommend that the permission granted last year of spearing through the ice in Burlington Bay be again granted this winter has been considered. In view of the special circumstances reported in your letter, and considering the distress which you say prevails among some of the Hamilton people who hitherto enjoyed this privilege, the Minister consents to spearing being carried on within the waters of Burlington Bay, under special licenses, from the 1st of January to the 31st of March, 1876, at the rate of \$1 per license to each person."

The above is the substance of the correspondence brought down, and if it does not tell much, tells, we suppose, all there is to be told.

**PILING UP THE COSTS.**—The Dundas *Banner* says:—"Deputy Judge Smart has issued an order against the town of Dundas for the payment of \$334 for costs incurred in the appeals tried before him for the revision of the Voters' Lists for the town, and we understand that similar orders have been issued against the several townships in which appeals were tried. In North Wentworth, we have been informed, the costs to be paid by Municipalities will not fall much short of about \$1,200. We don't know by what rule of law this decision has been arrived at, but it certainly affords a salutary lesson to Municipal Councils, and will be likely to induce them to appoint competent and impartial Assessors in future. We presume, however, that the Judge will not likely make another wholesale order of this kind, and it will therefore be well for Assessors to throw aside partizan feeling altogether and endeavor to make a fair and just assessment—or the result may be an order against them to pay such costs in future."

**INDIAN OUTRAGES.**—Owing to either the connivance or carelessness of those in authority, the fishermen on the Georgian Bay and North Shores of Lake Huron are being continually annoyed by having their nets stolen and fish destroyed by the Indians. During the month of October last, Mr. James Noble, of this town, had about eight miles of nets and fifty packages of fish taken from him by the Indians at Wequimikon. Again, a short time ago, the Indians on the Christian Islands, emboldened by the action of their Manitoulin friends, carried off Mr. Shooter's nets and fish; and now we have to record yet another glaring outrage of the same kind—Mr. Malory having had all his nets taken from him by the Cape Crocker Indians. We would draw the attention of the Government and their agents to this state of things, and would point out to them the necessity of taking active measures to have the thieves brought to justice. And whoever counsels the Indians in the depredations, for it is clear they are working their little game under some master hand, should be promptly taught that it is as criminal to be an accessory as a principal in dishonesty. The Indians have no exclusive privilege with regard to fishing, and have no exclusive right to fish without licences, the same as any other of her Majesty's subjects, and manifestly they can have no right to steal, for it amounts to that, the property of any fisherman who has taken out a licence to follow his calling on these waters, even should they encroach a little too close to one of the Islands occupied by the Indians.—*Collingwood Enterprise.*

The case *Williams v. Clarke*, tried at the County Court and General Sessions of the Peace for Waterloo county, was an appeal case under the Fisheries Act of '68. Some lake trout which had been consigned to the defendant, a fishmonger of Galt, within the "close season" when no fish may be caught or sold, were seized by Fishery Inspector Kerr, in Galt, and disposed of by him to one John Williams. Williams sold the fish in contravention of the Act, was prosecuted by Mrs. Clarke, and fined \$5 and \$2 costs. He gave due notice of appeal to Mrs. Clarke, but, after serving the notice, the Inspector, it seems, sent the amount of the fine and costs to Williams, and asked him to withdraw the appeal. Williams, the appellant, did not do this, the appeal was not entered regularly; and the respondent, Mrs. Clarke, now asked for the costs of the appeal. The Court made an order allowing her these costs, which were fixed by the order. Mr. King appeared for the respondent. The appellant was not present, and was not represented.

## HAMILTON.

HAMILTON, Nov. 23.

This morning Mr. Broughton, the General Manager of the G. W. R., has given instructions to the employees of the road not to carry white fish for any person over the road, during the close season, under a penalty of dismissal.

The American Express Company has also forbidden their agents from carrying fish during the close season.

A conductor, named Daney, on the W. G. & B. R., had a barrel of fish at Galt, on the 18th inst. Mr. Kerr, Inspector of fisheries, has received instructions to prosecute him and the shipper, and also the N. R., and G. T. R., for carrying the fish over their roads.

The American Fish Culturist Association intend to make a remarkable exhibition at the Centennial. It will embrace not only live, iced and stuffed fish, whales, seals, porpoises, turtles, frogs, alligators, crabs, lobsters, corals, sponges, algae, and other marine creatures, but prepared fish and roes, dried, salted, smoked, pickled, or corned, and also oils, spermaceti, gelatine, isinglass, glue, leather, shell, and whalebone.

## HAMILTON.

**The Dundas Marsh—Easter Services.**  
From Our Own Correspondent.

HAMILTON, March 29.—Relative to the proposed purchase of the Dundas marsh by a private individual, Mr. Irving, M.P., sends the following letter to the *Spectator* :—

OTTAWA, 24th March, 1875.

To the Editor of the *Spectator*.

DEAR SIR,—I observe the remarks in your issue of yesterday on the subject of the Dundas marsh.

Mr. Semmens having informed me that he had purchased part of the marsh from the Desjardins estate, and that other persons were applying to the Government to purchase the remainder, at his request I asked Mr. Pardee, the Commissioner of Crown Lands at Toronto, whether he could sell that portion which had been ungranted. Mr. Pardee replied that the Government would not sell the marsh without personal examination of the premises by him, and the consideration of any public interest which might be affected by such sale; and further, that the Fisheries Department at Ottawa would have to be consulted.

About a month ago Mr. Semmens came to Ottawa, and I accompanied him to the Fisheries Department. He there stated that it was his wish to establish salmon spawning beds, and to make fish ponds. He was informed, in answer, that the marsh was unsuitable for the production of salmon; that his own part of the marsh was probably suitable for other kinds of fish; that the Department was not prepared to recommend any sale to him; that they would be glad to assist or encourage him in developing the resources of his own property; but they could make no arrangements inconsistent with the general interests of the public.

Perhaps you will be kind enough to give publicity to these facts, or to this statement, and I will be glad that you should do so.

Yours most truly,

AMILIUS IRVING.

On which the *Spectator* remarks :—"We infer from the letter that both the Ontario and the Dominion Governments are opposed to the transfer of the property to private parties, and so far it is very satisfactory, and will be read with pleasure. It does not clearly appear whether or not Mr. Irving means the letter for a denial of the statement that he had used his influence with the Government to obtain the transfer. If the facts would have enabled him to be more explicit on this point his letter would have given greater satisfaction to his friends than it will in its present shape."

**SPEARING IN BURLINGTON BAY.**—We are authorized to state that spearing in Burlington Bay for herring or other fish, is illegal. The report circulated that such spearing would be allowed after the 10th of this month is incorrect. With one exception, we are happy to learn that, thanks to the supervision maintained by Mr. J. W. Kerr, the efficient overseer, no violation of the law has taken place.

**FISHERY REGULATIONS.**—To-day John W. Kerr, Esq., Fishery Inspector, received the following from the Department of Marine and Fisheries, and purposes carrying out the same strictly in this section :—

Public notice is hereby directed to the following close-seasons for fish, adopted by the Governor-General in Council on the 3rd April and 30th September, 1875.

**Province of Ontario.**—Whitefish, salmon trout and lake trout, from 12th November to 1st December; speckled trout, brook or river trout, from 15th September to 1st January; bass, from 15th May to 15th June; pickerel (*dore*), from 15th April to 15th May; maskinonge, from 15th April to 15th May.

**Province of Quebec.**—Whitefish, from 10th November to 1st December; salmon trout, lake trout (or lunge and Winnoniche), from 15th October to 1st December; speckled trout, brook or river trout, from 15th September to 1st January; bass, from 15th May to 15th June; pickerel (*dore*), from 15th April to 15th May; maskinonge, from 15th April to 15th May.

All well-disposed persons are requested to afford the local fishery officers whatever information and assistance they can towards carrying out these provisions of the fishery laws. Complainants will receive one-half of the fines imposed, and be paid for their costs and attendance as witnesses. Each person guilty of violating these regulations is liable to fine and costs, or in default of payment is subject to imprisonment. No person shall, during such prohibited times, fish for, catch, kill, buy, or have in possession any of the above-mentioned kinds of fish.

By order.

W. F. WHITCHER,  
Commissioner of Fisheries.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* protests against carrying any further the process of enclosing English commons for the purpose of converting them into productive farms. The protest is based on the fact that a great number of poor people have certain rights in these tracts of land, and that, although they may receive the worth of these rights in money, the latter is soon spent, while the villagers are left without that sense of quasi-possession which the right of pasture gives, and without that motive for thrift afforded by the thought that when money enough had been saved for the purchase of a sheep or a cow, the necessary pasturage could be procured for nothing.



A recent number of *Forest and Stream* contains a report of the meeting of the International Association for Protecting Game and Fish. This spirited Society owes its paternity, we believe, to Mr. Charles Hallock, editor of the above named journal, whose excellent writings on the higher order of sporting subjects have made him universally known and won for him the character of an authority. The Association already numbers several hundred members, and its executive machinery is divided into various committees composed of distinguished sportsmen, scientists, and naturalists from all parts of the Union and of Canada. At the last meeting of this Society, held in Philadelphia, the following letter from Mr. Witcher, of this city, to the Hon. R. B. Roosevelt, Member of Congress, was read:—

"OTTAWA, October, 1875.

"Hon. R. B. Roosevelt, M. C., No. 17  
Chatham street, New York:

"MY DEAR SIR: Much as I would like to be present at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Association for Protecting Game and Fish, notified by your circular of 22nd inst., it is impossible for me to visit Philadelphia, as the approaching Mixed Commission at Halifax, under the Washington Treaty, will engage my personal attention. There is, however, a subject of common interest to us which deserves active co-operation, and it seems to me as if the present association might quite properly, if not indeed very profitably, deal with it. I refer to the enforcement of some reasonable system of protection for spawning and young fish in our border lakes and their river links. Of course you are aware that in Canada these fisheries are worked under pretty severe restrictions. In both the Spring and Autumn fishings, and as affects the summer fry, our laws aim at securing four leading desiderata:—

"1. That fish should be unmolested during periods of reproduction.

"2. That they shall be afforded free access to breeding and feeding places.

"3. That the young fish when not sufficiently grown to be a fair marketable commodity shall not be destroyed.

"4. That the meshes of nets and the situation of them shall be such as to admit of the escape of immature fishes, and amount in practice to a reasonable and economic fishing.

"Other minor prohibitions hinge on these main provisions of our fishery laws. They are enforced by a staff of fishery officers, exercising respectively magisterial functions and detective capacity.

"The restrictions to methods and periods of fishing thus imposed on Canadian fishermen necessarily very much curtail their operations, restrict their trade, and reduce their profits. Such deprivations would, however, in the usual course and under ordinary conditions, be fully compensated by an increased supply and improved quality of fish, giving also assurance of permanence to their industry and investments. But in the case of those waters through which runs an imaginary boundary between the United States and Canada, across which the schools of fish pass to and fro at all seasons, the case becomes in many important respects quite exceptional. The fish which are bred and fed in our waters are captured in yours without any regard to their condition or growth. Thus, while Canadians are prohibited from catching spawning fish or injuring the fry of valuable commercial kinds, United States citizens are actually and continuously engaged in the immediate vicinity in catching the gravid fish and destroying the young of each previous hatching. They thus command their own market with fresh fish that pass and repass daily or nightly between us. This state of things you will readily perceive creates the strongest possible dissatisfaction among our own fishermen and other riparian inhabitants. In fact, we find ourselves at

present obliged, as it were, in deference to the anomalous position in which these people have been so long placed, to relax the stringency of our system. Meanwhile, it is proposed to communicate with the Federal and State authorities to ascertain if any uniformity of conditions can be brought about by legislation or by assimilating and enforcing such laws as may already exist.

"I enclose for your information a copy of the fishery regulations adopted last Spring, and of the more recent modified regulations by which it has been found necessary to relax our otherwise stringent system. These alterations, to you who know how necessary and beneficial is every protection that can be afforded to breeding fish, will no doubt appear (as they also do to myself) cause of sincere regret.

I am, my dear Sir, yours very sincerely,

W. F. WITCHER,  
Commissioner of Fisheries.

We are informed that official communications have since passed between the Governments of Canada and the United States on the same subject, and that there is some prospect of amelioration.

## PISCICULTURE.

### Canada's Artificial Fish-Nurseries.

[The following article has been unavoidably held over for some days in consequence of the pressure of other matter.]

In a young country like Canada, which depends for its commercial wealth principally on its natural resources, it is of the highest consequence that these should be preserved and fostered to their fullest extent. But few of the commercial enterprises of the Dominion rank in importance with her fisheries, in the magnitude of which the people take a just pride; and the opinion is held by not a few that, with its great extent of ocean coast, its numerous inland seas, and its almost interminable estuaries, rivers and creeks, and of which abound with various kinds of piscatorial life, British North America will yet be the fish market of the world. During some years past, however, the problem has been forced upon politicians, how to save our inland commercial fisheries from utter extinction; for, by the reckless way in which the lake and river fish were being slaughtered—in the close or breeding seasons (when the fish flee to shallow water to deposit their eggs and are more easily taken), as well as during the open seasons—such a contingency was beginning to be feared. Notwithstanding the best efforts of the Government, the lakes and streams were fast becoming depopulated, and some means were necessary for their replenishment.

With considerations akin to these, Mr. Samuel Wilmot, living near Newcastle, Ontario, having learned about a process of artificial fish-breeding which was being largely patronized in France, where it originated in 1842, and whereby the power of production was enormously increased, asked himself why such a system could not be applied to the failing waters of Canada. The result was that about seven years ago he made a small experiment of the idea in a creek running past his premises, and found it to work so well that he built a structure over the creek with the view of establishing a permanent business. About five years ago, through representations made to the Government of Sir John Macdonald, the scheme was placed on a national basis, under the supervision of Mr. Wilmot, and the present Government continues to act on the policy of its predecessors.

Mr. Wilmot's establishment is situated about a mile on the west side of Newcastle, on a running stream known as "Wilmot's creek," which takes its rise about eight miles above, and empties into the lake about two miles below. Before Mr. Wilmot commenced operations, this stream, he states, did not contain a single salmon or white fish; but now, during the spawning seasons, these fish may be daily counted there by the hundreds; it being an instinct of their nature to return and deposit their eggs at their own place of birth. For the

tribution in the barren streams of the country. It will be observed that the newly-hatched fish are not sent at once into the lakes, where many of them would probably be destroyed; but, creeks and rivers being the natural nursery grounds of the watery tribe, by being placed in these when young, they will return there, according to their instinct, when their spawning time comes. Several streams of the Dominion where there were no large fish a few years ago, have now, by this means, plenty and some of them are literally crowded. Among those so far benefitted are the rivers Rouge, Trent, Moira, Humber, and Credit, and Duffin's and Bowmanville creeks; but, unfortunately, from the want of proper care, many of the fish fall a prey to the baits or spears of depredators who seek only to profit themselves.

It is the duty of Government-appointed guardians to watch the different streams, and have breakers of the fishery laws punished, but their office is said to be a sinecure, as they are known to do little more than draw their pay. Some change for the better is needed in this respect.

Since Mr. Wilmot's establishment was started, six others after its model, have been set up, or are in process of erection in the Dominion by the Government, viz.:—on the Saguenay river in Quebec; on the Restigouche, and at Newcastle on the Mirimachi, in New Brunswick; on the Dartmouth, and on the Sackville, near Halifax, Nova Scotia; and a very large one at Sandwich, on the Detroit river, with a capacity of holding thirty millions of eggs, to be used exclusively for the breeding of white-fish for Lake Erie. This latter is expected to be completed in time for this year's white-fish close season, and Mr. Wilmot intends proceeding there with his staff in a few days to superintend the inauguration of the work.

In view of the great success which has attended the experiment of artificial fish breeding in Canada, the United States Government has taken the matter up, and seventeen or eighteen States of the Union have now their fishery commissioners, and breeding establishments after the design of Mr. Wilmot's. The whole work is under the supervision of Professor Baird, a talented gentleman, and the scientific successor of the late Professor Agassiz. Originally, before Mr. Wilmot was appointed by the Dominion Government to the position he now occupies, the Americans bought eggs from him at the rate of \$40 per thousand, or four cents each, which will give some idea of the commercial importance of the enterprise. There are certainly "millions in it." Eggs packed in boxes of wet moss can be safely conveyed almost any distance. Last year the authorities of the State of Michigan wished to purchase white-fish eggs from the Canadian Government, but, as terms were not come to, the Government of that State have commenced business for themselves on a small scale at Detroit, and are now putting up a somewhat extensive establishment on the American side of the Detroit river, opposite the Canadian establishment at Sandwich. The American Government this autumn are also employing a large staff of men to gather eggs of the Sacramento salmon on a branch of the river of that name, for the purpose of experimenting as to whether Pacific salmon will thrive in the rivers and lakes on the Atlantic side of the continent. Some of the eggs of these salmon were sent to Mr. Wilmot's nursery last year, and he has produced from them a pen filled with pretty and healthy-looking little fish, thus proving, so far as he is concerned at least, the success of the venture.

So popular has the system of artificial fish-breeding become, that some time ago a deputation, from the Government of Newfoundland waited upon Mr. Wilmot to request him to assist them in the establishment of a nursery on that Island; but as it did not form part of the Confederation, it was beyond his jurisdiction, and he was powerless to comply with the request. Whether they have done anything further in the matter is not known.

Mr. Wilmot has expressed the opinion that, in view of the commercial and national importance of this enterprise, and the necessity of intelligent and capable overseers for the many fish-breeding places which are being and will be constructed, it would be well for the Government to establish a school where, like the Model Farm with regard to agriculture, young men could be taught the art of artificial fish-breeding. At present when a new nursery is erected, a great deal of trouble is required to get it in proper working order, as scarcely any person knows anything about the art besides Mr. Wilmot himself.

tive animalcula and poisonous fungi. During the whole six months of incubation, these little germs of life are constantly watched and tended, and the slightest trace of impurity is removed as soon as detected. All the addled eggs are picked out daily, for, if left, like a putrid apple or potato, they would soon taint all the others in their immediate neighbourhood. It has been claimed, in opposition to this system, that fish eggs require to be incubated in gravel; but it has been practically proved that the real incubating element is water, whereas the gravel, in which fish deposit their eggs, is merely for their protection. Further, as fish, cannibal-like, live upon each other, the older ones devouring the younger, the little ones by being kept in their nurseries till they are able to take care of themselves are saved from destruction, which many of them would encounter in open water.

As above stated, the young fish emerge from their cells early in spring. After floating about in the couple of inches of water in the troughs for three or four weeks to absorb the umbilical sack in which they are enveloped, they are conveyed to the deeper water of several ponds outside the premises. Here they are kept for a few weeks longer until in fit condition to be transported for dis-

A day could hardly be more pleasantly or profitably spent than in paying a visit to Newcastle, and noticing the different stages of this peculiar process of raising fish. Mr. Wilmot is a gentleman of the most genial and hearty manners, and anyone who goes there may rely on receiving a cordial welcome and an eye-feast in what is to be seen. The months of October or November, when the fish come up the creek to spawn, and the months of April or May, when the young ones emerge from the eggs, are of course the most interesting periods of the year. A new building has been erected during the past summer, which will enable Mr. Wilmot to carry on a more extensive business next season. He also intends setting apart a room in which to keep for exhibition to visitors a collection of stuffed specimens of the watery world, of which he has quite a large number, having acted as his own taxidermist.

sake of curiosity, and to prove this fact, Mr. Wilmot marked many of the salmon which came into the stream by piercing their tails, and he has not been disappointed in observing their re-appearance in succeeding years. He has no doubt that every salmon which now visits him was produced at his nursery. Although the principal attention is paid to salmon and whitefish, salmon-trout and brook-trout are also cultivated.

Opposite the building where operations are carried on, a dam is thrown across the creek to prevent the fish from going farther up, and they naturally make for the first opening through which they can pass. Beside the dam there are placed perpendicularly in the water reticulated frames, which converge to a narrow aperture, something after the principle of a certain class of mousetrap, and through this aperture the fish make their way into a large pen leading into the building, and from which they cannot possibly escape. As many as two hundred salmon have been captured in this way during a single night. These fish are of course all quite gravid, and are watched daily till the spawn comes to maturity. When they arrive at the proper condition for manipulation, they are taken out one by one, and by a gentle pressure of the hand along the abdomen of the spawner, the ova are made to flow out like so many peas (which they indeed much resemble) into a basin. The male fish then undergoes a similar handling, and the milk coming in contact with the eggs, renders them fecund. The fish are then thrown again into the stream to return to their natural region, the lake, while the ova are spread in sieve-like trays, placed in troughs, through which fresh water from the creek is kept coursing, and left there till the young fish are hatched in the following spring.

Just now is the close season for salmon, and the eggs taken in the month of October are expected to hatch in April next. The season for whitefish is a week or so later. Various quantities of spawn are of course produced from fish of different sizes; but some idea of the average quantity may be obtained from the statement that in the presence of the writer, over four thousand eggs, by actual measurement were taken from a medium-sized salmon. Although the season is not yet ended, Mr. Wilmot has now under process of incubation, about half a million of eggs, a considerably larger crop than was altogether obtained last year. This is nearly the total capacity of the troughs at present; but Mr. Wilmot intends having them arranged so that the capacity will be increased five times, by placing the trays in tiers. If all the fish which enter the stream were caught, the number of eggs obtained would be increased from half a million to fully a million and a half. Many of the fish, instead of getting as far as the breeding-house, spawn in the gravel bed of the creek, the shallowness of which is an inducement to them to do so. A person passing along the banks can notice at every step large white patches on the bottom, where the salmon have been at work with their noses scooping and tearing up the hard beaten ground, to cover with gravel the eggs which they deposit. By another year, however, Mr. Wilmot expects to have this remedied, by having built about a mile nearer the mouth of the creek a second house, wherein to capture the fish before they get into shallow water. Very few will then be lost. "But," it may be asked, "why interfere with them when they are fecundating their young in the natural way? Is not that much more preferable than anything that can be done artificially?" The answer is that, while by estimation only about five per cent. of the eggs deposited in the former way become impregnated and produce young, it is clearly ascertained that by the latter process no less than eighty per cent. are fruitful! Many reasons are given for the advantage of the artificial mode over the natural. By the former, all the ova, if healthy and susceptible, are certain to become impregnated, while those in the bottom of the creek are liable to escape contact with the milk, and are consequently lost. There is a better chance of the young fish being hatched in the artificial troughs, than in the gravel bed of the creek, into which are washed many of the impurities resulting from agricultural saw mills and other operations, and which swarm with various kinds of destruc-

## FISH HATCHING.

(From the Essex Record.)

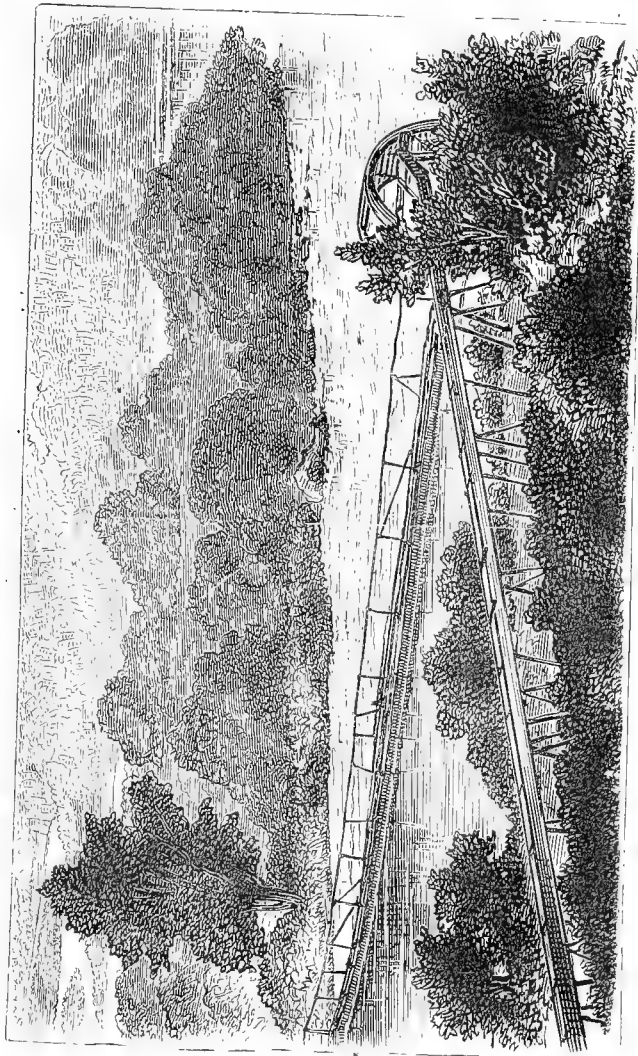
We spent a couple of hours with Mr. Wilmot, Fishery Inspector, at the fish-breeding establishment at Petite Cote on Saturday last enquiring into a few slight difficulties that had developed themselves, and we now deem it but proper to state the facts as then elicited for the benefit of the public, as nearly everybody feels a lively interest in all that pertains to the institution. The gentleman placed in charge by Mr. Wilmot is a thorough enthusiast in the business, and possesses all the judgment and experience necessary for so delicate a duty; but latterly he has found some trouble in keeping up what he regarded a sufficient head of water for the attainment of a high measure of success. It was clearly apparent, however, that the fault lay beyond his reach. The steam engine had failed to supply the power to pump continuously the steady stream of water required, and at times afforded comparatively little. This alarmed the superintendent, and he communicated his fears to his superior. On arrival, however, Mr. Wilmot, to his great gratification, found that the eggs were in splendid condition, every one clearly showing to the naked eye a rapidly developing fish within the shell. The maker of the engine was summoned to the place, and every precaution possible taken to prevent future annoyance. Mr. Waterous had no difficulty in discovering the cause of the misbehaviour of the engine—it was too small for the purpose, and would occasionally fall back in its work. A good many of the fish had already been hatched, and the indications were that in about three weeks the great bulk of them would be out; and as the eggs had from the first been kept in water brought direct from the river and equal in temperature with that of the river itself, there could be no danger in transferring even the eggs as they then were to the bed of the stream, it was resolved that every effort should be persisted in to keep the engine running, but failing in that, to at once turn out the carefully-tended treasure along the shallows of the river. Mr. James McKee and Mr. Gauthier, both largely interested in the fisheries, kindly tendered to Mr. Wilmot the assistance of their men and boats in case the emergency should arise. So far, however, the superintendent has succeeded in jogging along all right, and he hopes may do so till the fry are all liberated, at which time the original intention was to plant them in the river; for although at their advanced stage unquestionably as safe in their destined home encased in the shell as if relieved from it, more confidence would then be felt by those ignorant of the mysteries of fish-hatching.

It is now known that, making all due allowance for the casualties inseparable from juvenile fish life, at least ten millions will be added to the store of white fish in our river and contiguous lake by the winter's work at this one establishment—a gain worth many times the trouble and expense incurred; and another season, with the valuable experience gained and the increased steam power and hatching troughs to be provided during the summer, ten times that number may safely be reckoned upon. First efforts frequently fall through the lack of trifling precautions, and it would not have been cause for wonder if the initial operations at Petite Cote had resulted disastrously; and, therefore, Mr. Wilmot and the people should find in the great success accomplished, ample cause for gratification. Last fall the house was not ready for the eggs until the spawning time, exceptionally early that season, had nearly passed, and it was very difficult to obtain a supply; but next fall all that will be remedied, and any number desired may be placed in the trays.

WHITE FISH SALES.—The market for white fish is steadily going upwards, and has already reached thirty dollars per barrel for good lots. It is fully expected that \$40 will be paid early in Lent. There are about an average of 120 fish of 2 lbs. each in a barrel, and it will thus be seen that fishing in the Detroit River is not a bad business, notwithstanding the comparatively bad seasons of the past year or two. Mr. Chas. W. Gauthier, of Sandwich, has already sold to American dealers \$25,000 worth.—Essex Record.

1st March 1876.—





VIEW OF THE DAM AND ITS SURROUNDINGS.

### WORK OF THE UNITED STATES FISH COMMISSION.

#### THE SALMON NURSERY IN CALIFORNIA.

THE United States Fish Commission for the Pacific Slope selected, in 1872, a point on the McCloud River, Shasta County, Cal., for the great salmon nursery. It is about twenty miles from the terminus of the Oregon and California Railroad, and about three miles from its junction with Pit River, one of the largest tributaries of the Sacramento; and among all the beautiful spots in California, none more lovely or more grandly picturesque than this could have been chosen. It is peculiarly eligible from the fact that it is the best of the few water sites in California not injured for hatching purposes by the operations of the miner.

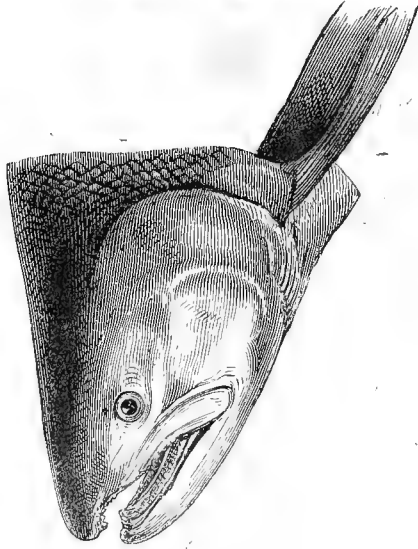
Almost overhanging the bank of the river, a plain, substantial building, about fifty feet in length, has been erected, and divided into



GENERAL VIEW OF THE HATCHING-TROUGH.

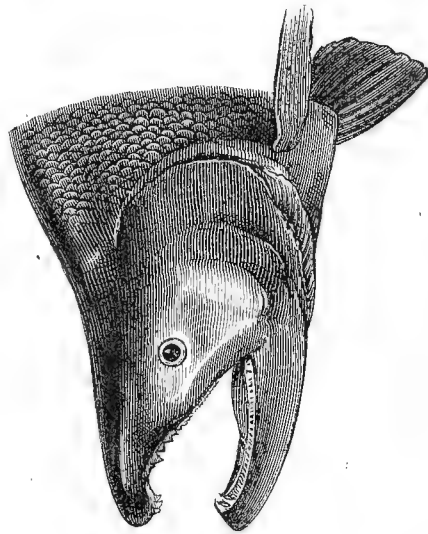
that "not one out of a hundred ever returns to the sea after spawning." Myriads of the dead fish line the banks of the McCloud in the months of October and November, after having completed their mission in life. The salmon of the Atlantic returns, season after season, to its early spawning-ground. This, too, is the case with the salmon of the Danube, and of Great Britain generally.

The bridge in the illustration is the result of last season's hatching, and answers two purposes. It increases the power of the water at the wheel, and prevents the fish from ascending the river. Myriads of them may be seen below factiously searching for a place of escape. As they increase in numbers the agility of the fish is remarkable. Jumping from two to three feet in the air, turning somersaults, and cutting up all sorts of antics generally, they afford a very singular spectacle to the traveler. While in this state of excitement they will perform some of the most wonderful feats, as well as inflicting



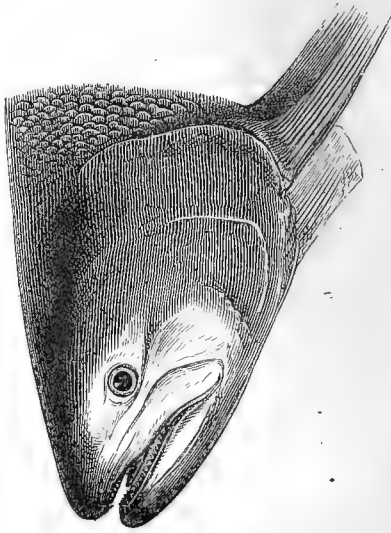
HEAD OF A MALE SALMON ON THE 1ST OF SEPTEMBER.

passage of fungus, which gathers on the egg and prevents the egress of the young salmon, and every drop of water passing over the hatching-troughs is filtered through them.

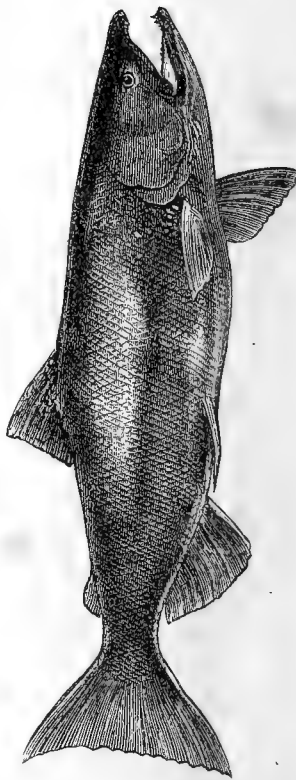


HEAD OF A MALE SALMON ON THE 1ST OF OCTOBER.

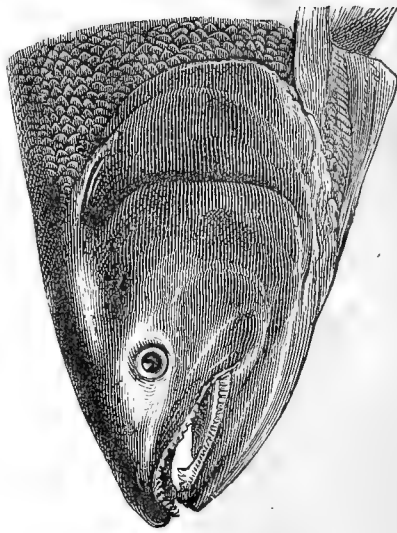
and each capable of containing 30,000 eggs, thus placing the hatching capacity of the establishment at over 8,000,000 of young salmon in a season.



HEAD OF A FEMALE SALMON ON THE 1ST OF SEPT.



SALMON GRILSE ONE YEAR OLD.



HEAD OF A FEMALE SALMON ON THE 1ST OF OCTOBER.

and capable overseers for the breeding places which are being constructed, it would be well for the government to establish a school where young men could be taught the art of artificial fish-breeding. At present, when a nursery is erected, a great deal of work is required to get it in proper working order, as scarcely any person knows anything of the art besides Mr. Wilmot himself.

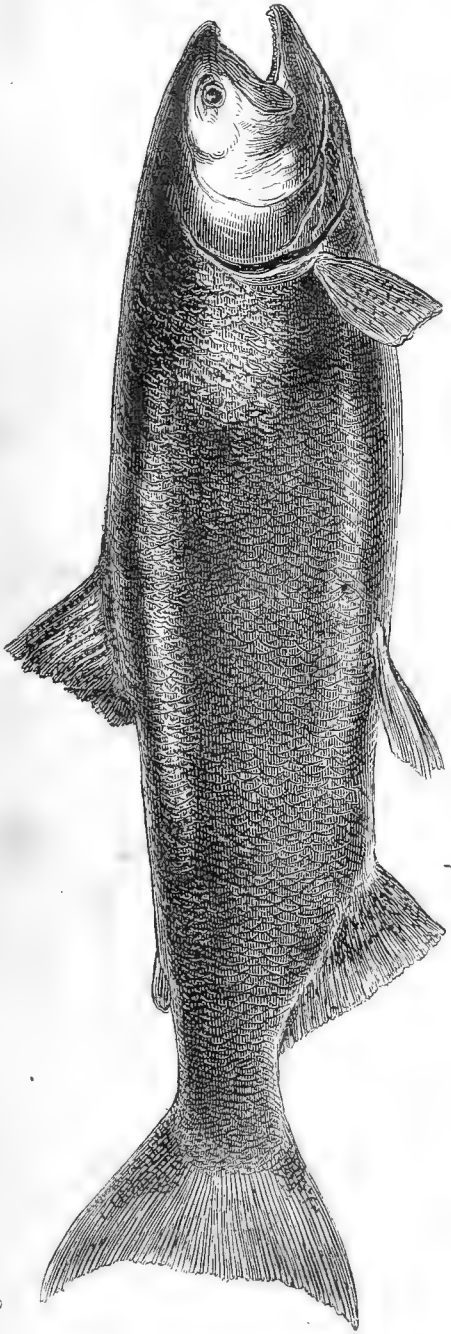
upon themselves the greatest bodily torture. A fish from two to three feet long will often force himself out of the water, perfectly upright, and, by a rapid undulation of the tail support himself from one to three minutes, surveying the surroundings for an opening in the fence to escape through. When unsuccessful, it will often fall back, and then, with one tremendous leap, jump clear over the top of the fence, which is about two feet above the water's edge. The question arises, whether the bridge, in preventing the salmon to ascend the river and spawn, will not tend to depopulate the river; it being remembered that the fish always return to spawn in the place where they were hatched. This is offset by putting a certain portion of the artificially hatched salmon back into the river.

The advantage of this station may be estimated by looking at the cost of the eggs as heretofore purchased. Until the establishment of the works on the Penobscot River, the Government paid Canada forty dollars

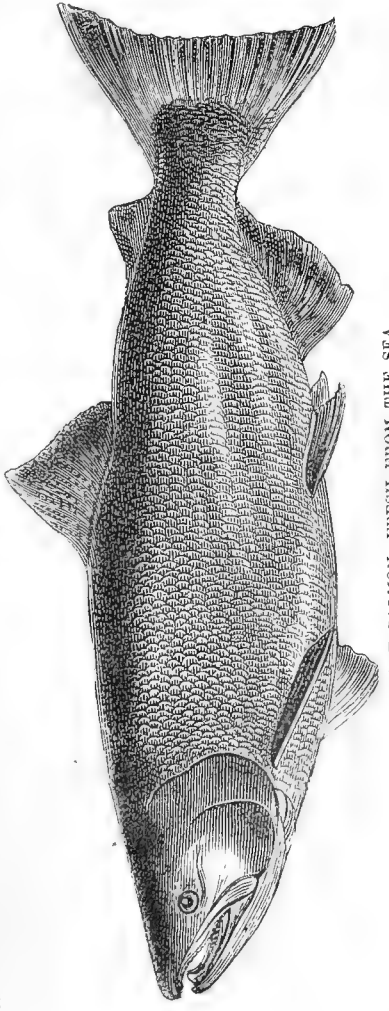
At the commencement of the spawning season there is no perceptible difference between the male and female head. As the season advances the upper jaw of the male protrudes over the under, and

From the tanks are led the hatching-troughs, in eight strings of five each, making forty in all. An incline of one inch to each trough gives free circulation to the water, and a drop of three inches at

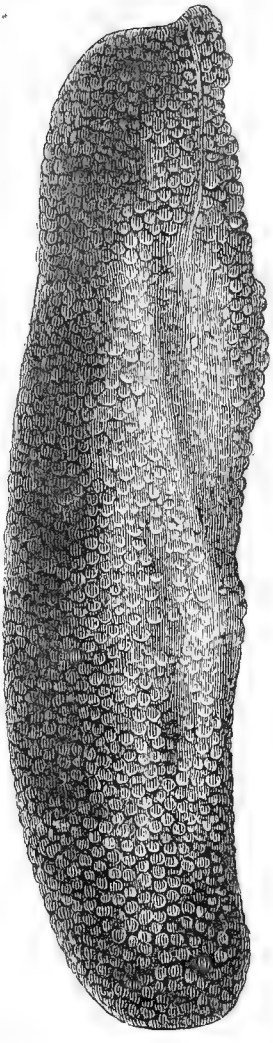
kitchen, dining-room, and sleeping apartments, for the accommodation of the large force employed during the hatching season. Immediately below this building a canvas tent, 100 feet in length and thirty feet wide, is stretched, covering the hatching-trough and supplying the reservoir. Here the river, about 200 feet wide, sweeps over a natural bar, with a strong, heavy current, falling into a large deep pool below, where most of the salmon are taken. Across the former, Mr. Stone, the Deputy Commissioner, and his men have, with great labor, stretched a fence of willow poles, reaching from bank to bank, safely anchored among the heavy boulders of the river, and presenting an almost impassable barrier to the salmon on their way to the spawning grounds of the upper stream. At the foot of the rifle an under-shot wheel, twelve feet in diameter, furnished with long buckets on the inner periphery, and capable of lifting 12,000 gallons per hour, is set deeply and securely in the swift current. At the lower end of the tent



APPEARANCE OF A FEMALE SALMON WHEN READY TO SPAWN.



MALE SALMON, FRESH FROM THE SEA.



SALMON SPAWN.

per thousand for the eggs. The works on the Penobscot reduced the cost to about three dollars, while the establishment on the McCloud River furnished them last season at about one dollar and a half per thousand.

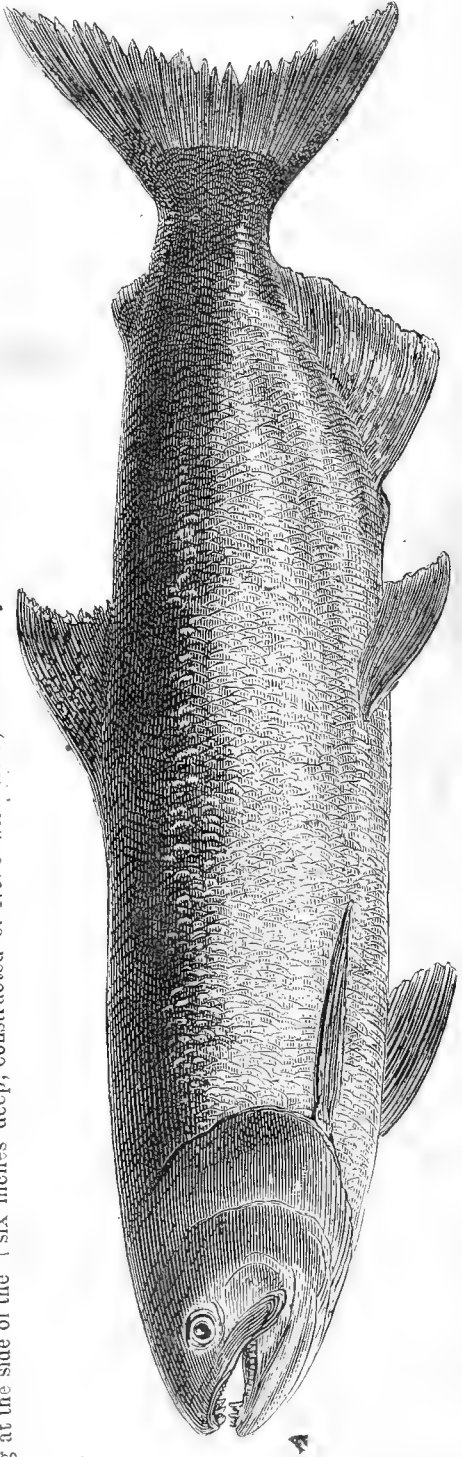
the snout forms an eagle-shaped beak, the under jaw fitting closely into the upper.

A marked peculiarity of the California salmon is the brevity of its life. It is estimated by Mr. Stone

the lower end serves to aerate it before passing through the next. Suspended in every trough are seven trays, eleven inches wide, two feet long and six inches deep, constructed of No. 5 wire cloth,

are two large receiving-tanks or reservoirs, into which the water is led from the wheel by a flume. The fish are caught at night with the seine. They are then put into a crib floating at the side of the river, and secured by lines to the shore. The next day they are taken out, one by one, and gently passed by the hand until the eggs and milt are deposited in a vessel made for the purpose. The eggs of a healthy female will average 6,000. When the eggs become impregnated they are placed in a trough, through which a stream of water is caused to run by the wheel—shown in the illustration.

Experience has demonstrated that no matter how pure the water of the river may seem, it is not sufficiently so to insure complete success in salmon-hatching. Accordingly, three flannel screens are placed in each of the tanks to prevent the



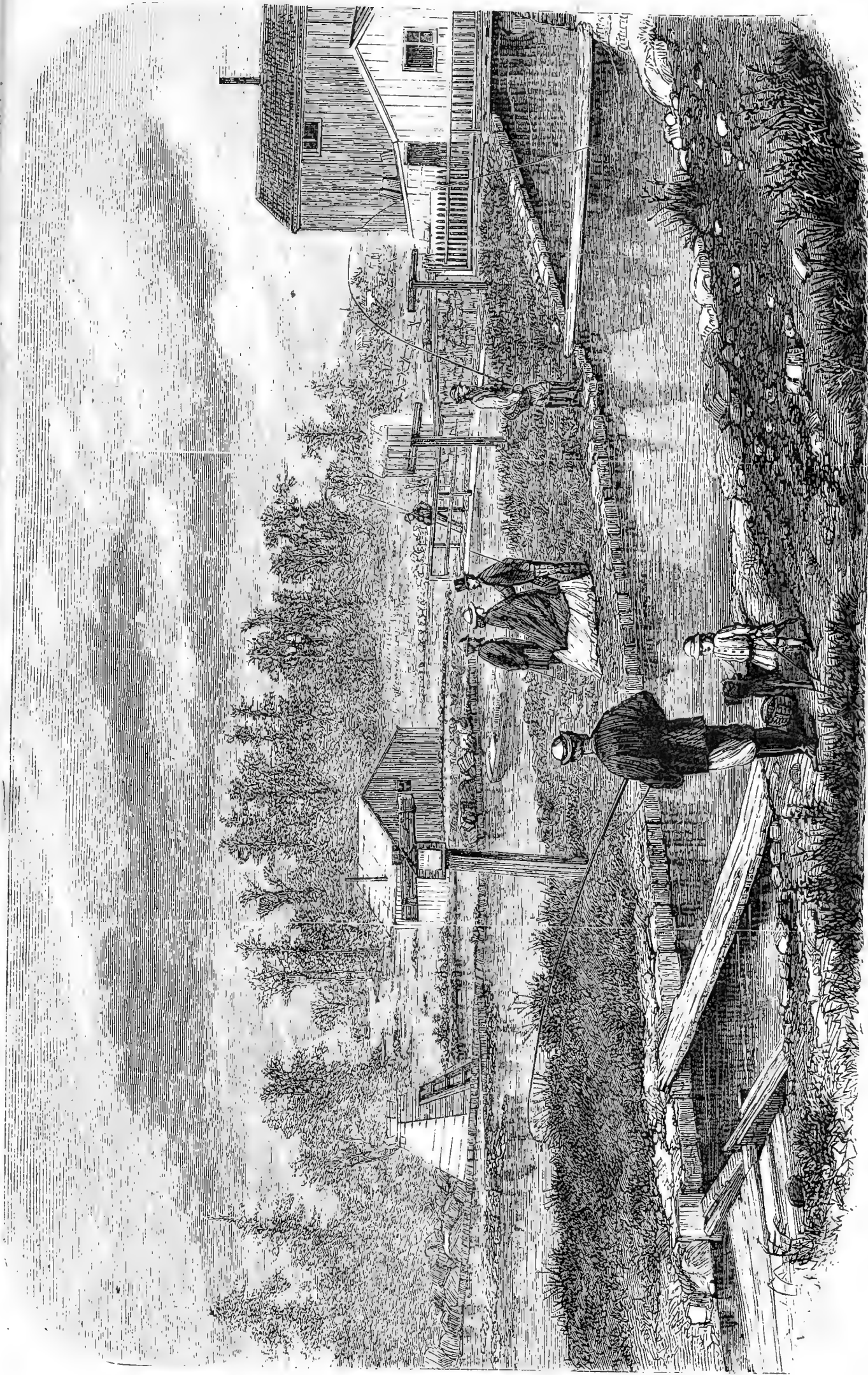
APPEARANCE OF A FEMALE SALMON AFTER SPAWNING.

### THE LATE DR. EDWARD DELAFIELD.

ON Saturday, the 13th inst., Dr. Edward Delafield died at his residence in New York City, aged eighty-one years. Dr. Delafield was the son of John Delafield, who held a high position in the mercantile community of New York. The doctor was born in the year 1794, and was graduated at Yale College in 1812. He then studied medicine, and was graduated as a physician at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, in 1815. He then went to London, where he became a pupil of Abernethy and Sir Astley Cooper, and after

THE SALMON NURSERY ON THE MCLOUD RIVER, SHASTA COUNTY, CAL.—FROM PHOTOGRAPHS FURNISHED BY MR. CONCKLIN.





MR. SETH GREEN'S TROUT PONDS, ON SPRING CREEK, NEAR MUMFORD, ONE OF THE FINEST IN THE STATE, N. Y. PHOTOGRAPH BY N. B. BAKER, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

# ARTIFICIAL PROPAGATION OF TROUT.

The fact is now fully established that we can raise fish as readily as we raise cattle and sheep, and that a little outlay of care and attention will provide us abundantly with this delicious kind of food. In France, for some years, the propagation of different varieties of the finny tribe, has been attended with success, and it is now a well-known fact that ponds with millions of young fish, which, if protected, would rapidly attain growth and perfection. And as the demand for the denizens of the water as an article of food is constantly increasing, the profitable character of this

whole length is but one mile, when it unites with Allen's Creek, one of the tributaries of the Genesee, in the village of Mumford. The stream falls about fifty feet, from the springs to its junction with Allen's Creek. The country is thickly settled, and one of the richest in the State. The surface of the land is quite level, with

easily obtain all the food they want all times of the year. Mr. Green has purchased this stream, and constructed his ponds upon it.

The pond containing the largest fish and principal spawning was first constructed. A strong volume of water passes through it from the main stream the quantity received and discharged being so regulated that there is no dan-

a more advanced stage, the sac being much smaller, having been nearly absorbed; and Fig. 5 represents the fish after the entire disappearance (by absorption) of the sac. At this stage it begins to feed, and grows very rapidly under favorable circumstances—that is, in pure spring water of the right temperature, and with plenty of feed. The latter is the first thing sought for by the young fish, and the habit or instinct thus early developed strengthens and remains until extinction with life.

The reader can judge of the rapid growth of trout by comparing Fig. 5 with the cut representing a two-year-



branch of industry especially commends it to attention. Hitherto we have had little need in this country to



SPAWN AND YOUNG TROUT.

to such means for gaining our supplies; our numerous rivers and lakes teem with life, affording us both variety and abundance of their treasures, while very little stream tempts the angler and rewards his effort.

There is one variety of fish, however, so delicious as food, and so much sought after as game by the sportsman, that it has entirely disappeared from many of our streams, and would soon become extinct. This is the brook-trout, the delight of every disciple of Izaak Walton, and the god of the epicure. To the artificial culture of this beautiful and delicious fish attention has been particularly turned, and with the most flattering results. It has been found entirely practicable to stock our streams, under certain conditions, with an ever-increasing supply, and henceforward the raising of fish will become an important element of industry. Streams in which the fish already exist may thus be bountifully stocked, or they may be introduced into waters where they never before were found, since the spawn can be carried safely from place to place, any required distance; and any person who chooses to construct a pond may thus fill it with fish in a very short time.

Our illustrations on this page show some of the features of pisciculture as practiced by Mr. Seth Green, of Mumford, N. Y., whose skill must now give him a national reputation, and whose ponds are the most extensive in the country.

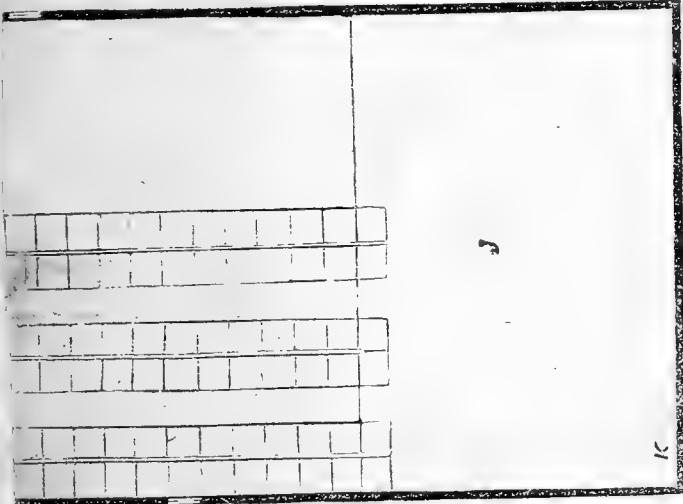
The most prolific trout stream within our knowledge is the Caledonia Spring. For fifty years it has been the resort of the angler; day and night the sportsman pursues his finny game along its banks, and yet the supply seems rather to increase than diminish. This celebrated trout brook rises from the rocks in the village of Caledonia, Livingston county, New York. Its

the surface of the water.

The bottom of the stream is covered with small white shells and gravel. The water is clear, pure, and perfectly transparent, so that any object can be seen for three or four rods very distinctly. It is tinged with lime and sulphur. Its temperature at the spring is forty-eight degrees the whole year round, but down the stream three-quarters of a mile it rises in the hottest days of summer, to fifty-eight degrees by night, but is down in the morning to fifty-two. In winter it settles sometimes to forty-three, but generally keeps up to forty-five or forty-six. The temperature of the water to Allen's Creek is very even the year round, but very cold in summer and quite warm in winter, never freezing. The water through the whole length of the creek, as well as every stone, stick, weed and blade of grass, is alive and literally covered with numerous insects and larva of flies summer and winter, so that the trout, however numerous they are

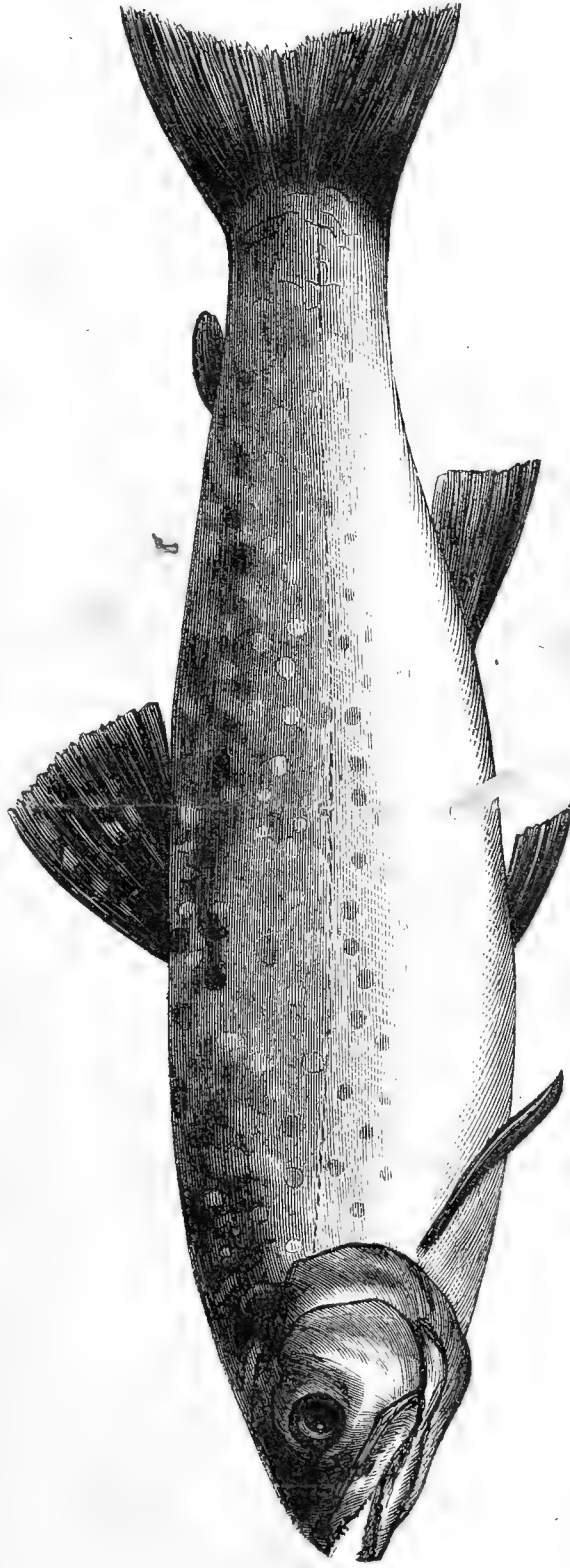
#### HATCHING TROUGHS.

a clear white, with the exception of a small dark spot in the centre. Fig. 2 shows a small dark line across the egg—the embryo fish. Fig. 3 shows the young fry after it has broken its sac.



ger or overlowing. It enters under a wheel, which is so exactly fitted to its place that not the smallest fish can escape, and maintains a regular motion. This pond is seventy-five feet long, twelve feet wide, and four or five feet deep. Mr. Green's dwelling is over the lower end of this pond, which affords shade and a hiding-place for the trout when they choose to retire from view. There are from eight to ten thousand fish in this pond, and water enough for fifty times the number. A great deal of feed passes to them from the stream, but they are fed every day with fresh meat, chopped fine, and it is exciting to see this vast multitude dart to the surface as they see the coveted particles descending.

Fig. 1 represents a single egg as it leaves the female trout; it is almost



A 17-YEAR OLD TROUT—FULL SIZE.

WHEEL BY WHICH THE SUPPLY OF WATER IS REGULATED, AND THE FISH PREVENTED FROM ESCAPING.]

old on this page. The trout produces from two hundred to two thousand spawn, each according to their size and age. After obtaining the spawn, it is placed in the hatching-troughs, which are covered by a suitable house, to screen the young trout from the glare of the sun, and protect them from storms of hail, that might in a moment destroy thousands of them, and from a heavy fall of rain, that would wash them from the troughs where they are kept several weeks after hatching.

Mr. Green's troughs are three in number: The water is brought from the main stream through bored logs and received into a tank (A), six feet long, two feet eight inches wide, and a foot and a half deep, entering at B, from whence it passes through six strainers (c c c c c).

At D it passes into the trough E, running entirely across the end of the house, and from thence by small gates (which are regulated at pleasure to increase or diminish the flow of water) it passes into the several hatching-troughs (F F F). These troughs are subdivided, or rather, two are placed together, and between them are passages (H H) for conveniently distributing the spawn, inspecting the operation of hatching, and feeding the young fish. It will be observed that the troughs are partitioned into small squares. By this arrangement the force of the current is checked at each bar, and the trout are prevented from huddling in a mass and becoming suffocated.



## SALMON CULTURE IN ONTARIO.

### MR. WILMOT'S EXPERIMENTS SUCCESSFULLY CARRIED OUT.

On the 16th of November last, an article was published in THE GLOBE speaking, at some length, of the Salmon-breeding establishment which Mr. Samuel Wilmot had organized on his farm, at Newcastle. A general description of the place was given, as well as a minute account of the plan employed for procuring the fish, and obtaining and hatching their eggs. Up to that time, Mr. Wilmot had merely hatched out a few fish in the cellar of his own house, and the attempt made last winter was the first on anything like an enlarged scale. It was a matter of some doubt whether the experiment would be successful, because, while the eggs would be removed from the ordinary dangers of the creek, they would be subject to the same searching frosts of a Canadian winter and the more destructive freshets of early spring, without having the protection of their natural beds. In addition to this was the fear that rats or other vermin might find their way into the breeding houses, and in a single night destroy many thousand eggs. The experiences of English and French pisciculturists could be made available only up to a certain point, because the circumstances under which the work could be carried on were very different on the two continents, so that some risk attended the buildings of this nursery and unceasing care and never-ending anxiety were almost certain consequences of its being tried. With a determination, however, to test the matter, and in spite of the indifference of many and the hostility of others, Mr. Wilmot set about the task of utilizing the stream that flows through his farm and procuring eggs from wherever he could get them. We have before fully described the operation of catching the salmon and procuring the ova, as well as the peculiarities of the Newcastle establishment.

On the 5th of March we published a second article, recounting the partial success Mr. Wilmot had attained, and relating the various troubles and difficulties he had overcome. At that time the country was buried in snow, everything was frozen, and not a vestige of the creek, not even the breakwater, could be seen. The fish houses, built at the foot of a hill, were almost hidden in the snow; their roofs and a few feet of their walls only could be seen, and they looked like two Swiss cottages that had been destroyed by an avalanche. Everything around them seemed to have yielded to the severity of the winter, for the valley in its unbroken quiet appeared destitute of life, and the thick white covering, blown here and there into an undulating range, defied the creatures of land to find food, or those of water to find air. Beneath all this, however, two hundred thousand little creatures were steadily coming to life. The small stream by which they were fed being brought from the Creek, underground, fought hard with the frost, and for a month, during the coldest weather of the year, remained at one degree above the point at which it would have become unmanageable. Gradually the fish formed in the eggs, their eyes first becoming apparent, a thin streak then showing where their bodies would be, and lastly, the pulsation of the heart, denoting that they were alive, while the movements of some of the eggs showed very plainly that each not only had an indweller, but that he was, moreover, live and kicking. The eggs of the Whitefish, and those of a cross between Salmon and Lake-trout, were also exhibiting signs of vitality, though, unfortunately, a rat eat the greater part of the Hybrid eggs, and the only failures, as far as the experiment had gone, were the eggs of the Lake-trout. There, however, having been

taken from a dead fish, and impregnated with the milt of another dead one, were always a doubtful case. As the temperature of the water became higher, so the fish advanced, until the latter end of April, when it reached 51, 52, 53 and 54°, at which time the young salmon burst their shells by thousands each day. On the 24th of April they were all born, but the same sun which had indirectly vivified them had also melted the snow and ice, and caused a freshet which bursting the banks of the stream poured down upon the breeding ponds absolutely laden with mud. Before anything could be done to remedy this disaster, thirty thousand young salmon had been suffocated, and had it not been for the readiness of Mr. Wilmot many more must have been lost in the same way. By the construction of a peculiar frame he kept the young fish in the water, but removed from the bottom of the troughs in which the mud so quickly formed.

The writer paid a third visit to the Newcastle establishment during the present week. Few would imagine that so short a time could have produced so great a contrast in the appearance of any spot. There, where the desolation of winter and the thick covering of snow had robbed the valley of all its beauty, and almost levelled it with the surrounding fields, the return of summer had clothed its banks with foliage, filled its woods with birds, and brought again to view the little brook, rushing, jumping, and bubbling along its rocky bed. A thousand people might have passed the spot in winter without even noticing it, not one of whom would now re-cross the bridge without stopping a moment to admire the little dell. Inside the hatching-house the change was no less remarkable. From November until April, the long line of troughs had remained covered with the frames containing the eggs. Row after row, trough after trough, the lines of little pea-sized eggs remained, slightly encrusted with sediment, while the monotonous little jet of water dribbled them into animation. Now, the dirty looking little eggs are seen no more, the frames have departed and the troughs and adjacent boxes are alive with young Salmon, racing about from side to side, hiding beneath the stones, and darting about ready to seize anything the least bit smaller than themselves. In one large box there are ten thousand Parr—for they have all absorbed the umbilical bag, and become marked with their Parr marks—and as they move about, ever keeping their heads up stream, they look unlike anything else in nature. To compare them with a migration of large black ants would, perhaps, be most nearly correct, but even that would fail to convey an idea of their appearance, because the Salmon are in several layers, reaching from the stones at the bottom almost to the surface of the water. In some troughs, they persist in congregating in the corners, where they look precisely like a swarm of bees. In others, and particularly in those which have the most light, they spread themselves; though wherever there is a tolerably large stone, there will be a little black congregation underneath it. When undisturbed, they lie, comparatively speaking, quiet, all heading the one way—up stream; but as their trough is approached, they dash about, each one seeking the particular stone to which he belongs, as if safety was there and there only to be found. They are very ravenous and fight with one another for any food that may be thrown in to them, and exhibit the instinct of their kind even at this early date. The writer placed a young salmon in the trough containing the young white-fish, which had been hatched at the same time, in order to see whether it would attack the smaller fish. After dashing about for a moment or two, frightened at finding itself in new waters, the little salmon, hardly an inch long, espied a white fish, and darting across the trough, seized him by the middle and commenced to swallow him. Finding that

he had got a bad hold of his prey, he released him, and retiring for a few inches, made another dash at him with such impetus that he succeeded in getting the head and greater part of the body of the fish down his throat. In spite of the struggles of the white fish, whose tail was going at a wonderful rate, the salmon retired to a corner to gorge him, but he was obliged—and we found many others in the same condition—to do it by degrees and in the meantime to associate with his companions, with the tail of another fish sticking out of his mouth. From the voracity of these small creatures, and the way in which they fought for the good things that strayed into their boxes, it is not unlikely that the tail of the whitefish thus exposed to view induced other salmon to attempt to possess themselves of the body to which it belonged. We put the salmon back in his own trough, which was too densely crowded to allow of his being watched. This preference for fish food is not confined to the smaller ones of other fish; they will eat their own kind just as readily. We placed a young salmon in a vessel containing a last year's fish—now a smolt—and the moment the latter saw him the Parr was captured and swallowed. So with the Hybrids—the cross between the salmon and the lake-trout which, though smaller than the salmon proper, are almost as keen in their pursuit of any stray fish smaller than themselves. There is a peculiarity about this cross-bred fish which is rather remarkable: they will not touch anything that is not alive. The young salmon are fed on pulverized liver, the spawn of other fish, and similar things; but the hybrid will not touch any of these things, but depends on that which the little stream from the creek may bring in. It is a great pity that so many of the eggs producing these fish were destroyed, as there are too few left to thoroughly try the question of their being a reproducing fish.

The whitefish hatched by Mr. Wilmot have nearly all died. They will not eat, and this looks like a confirmation of the theory previously advanced by Mr. Wilmot, that the young of the whitefish, when hatched in the shallows, immediately depart for their food to the deep waters of the lake, where they find something which they cannot get in the streams. No importance, however, attaches to this fact, because they will breed freely in the lake, and if necessary, can be hatched in the streams and allowed to depart directly they break their shell. The production of salmon was the object in view, and here it has been shown in a manner past all question, that space and means alone can limit the quantity of fish turned into Lake Ontario. Of the value of salmon as an article of food or of commerce we need hardly speak, though it is worthy of mention that, at the present market prices for newly hatched salmon ova, there is in Mr. Wilmot's nursery twelve thousand dollars worth of young fish. Next year the number hatched will be much larger than that of this season, even with the present houses; and as they can be enlarged or supplemented to an almost indefinite extent, it will be seen at once that the subject possesses an importance far beyond that which most people attach to it. If in the small space which has been allotted to the purpose on Mr. Wilmot's farm such results can be obtained, a moment's reflection will show what might be done by the establishment of other breeding grounds managed in the same way. It is, of course, undeniable that a very large portion of the young salmon now at Newcastle will never attain the age even of Grilse; but much may be done to save them from their enemies until they are at least a little better able to take care of themselves. To ensure the safety of his brood during their Parrhood, Mr. Wilmot has turned the course of his creek by cutting a narrow channel to the right of the natural one, and leading the

water off by that. He thus forms a pond, into which the young are turned, and these are protected from other fish by a slide placed at the junction of the old and new channels. In these ponds the fish will remain for 12 months, when they will have attained the age and growth of Smolts, and will be ready to migrate. They are then, of course, lost to sight of, and their future course is

purposes to extend his operations. We now see, that we have at command an article for home consumption and foreign trade, that can be increased to any extent by means of the natural facilities of the country, and it will be our own fault if this fact is not taken advantage of, or the streams be again allowed to be depopulated by fellows who have no thought but of their own immediate gratification.

Whether or not they traverse the St. Lawrence is however of secondary importance. If they do, the fishermen of that river partake of the benefit with us; if they do not, we keep the fish in Ontario, but necessarily have an inferior article. It is far more important to know, whether the movement which Mr. Wilmot has inaugurated is to be extended, and whether that gentleman

at present a subject on which two opinions are held. Some maintain that they do not migrate to the sea, while others contend that they follow the laws that guide all other salmon. This is a point that can easily be set at rest, by transporting some of them to the upper lakes when their gradual decrease, or speedy increase would set the question at rest for

Dear Sir

Richd Bay Tisbury

As this is a pleasant day I take pleasure in writing in my summer house. I have been to the lake at Watter the Burlington Bay there I see quite thousands of Ducks but not over them. The law has said they shall not kill wild birds. At this season of the year it is right to preserve them at this time in particular when they are very scarce. But it can be done for them just give them protection & let them alone. They will soon increase there is nothing else can be done for them but to let them be. But as to the Act for preserving the fish at this year it is a very old Act the first I remember of seeing was passed in the reign of James I in the first Parliament of that Monarch 1624 it is enacted that fish should not be slain in forbidden time within the pain of forty shillings & for the third time the slayer to lose his life or then Banish so you see it is a very old & I have punishment for the third offence to lose his life. But at present an Offence can get off for a fine of five which is much better. But now as to the carrying of high price fish in Hamilton Market it is very easy helped when we have the fine of the market properly capable to transport as many fish as could supply the market if it was only attend to just look at Broxtown & France. We send them by millions & thousands of Barrels of the Salmon to all parts of the world when Salmon & Trout ova have been successfully carried to & hatched in Australia what is to hinder us nothing but just to wait about it we cannot say we have not patience we have plenty of the best water and spawning. But that could be made better to us free by future I will say by this by an extract from a paper on the Acclimatizing of fish

**ACCLIMATIZING.**—The introduction and acclimatization of food-fish into localities and countries destitute of particular species, is engaging a good deal of attention abroad. Salmon and Trout ova have been successfully carried to, and hatched in, Australia. Attempts are being made to introduce two German fish into British waters, —the "Danube Salmon," or *huchen* of the Germans, a river charr which does not go down to the sea, and is large and well-flavored; and the "Wels," or "Sly," (naturalists call it the *Silurus Glanis*), said to be the "largest fresh-water fish in Europe," specimens of "from fifty to eighty pounds' weight being of common occurrence," and individuals weighing as much as 4 or 5 cwt. being caught "almost every year." The edible

qualities of the young specimens are "not inferior to the pike," and the old ones "taste exactly like the flesh of sturgeon." More recently we note that attention is being called to the white-fish of our Canadian Lakes, as being worthy of introduction into the "Lakes of Cumberland and Scotland, now almost valueless." We may add that the impregnated ova of various kinds of fish, can now be purchased in many places in Britain, giving persons who wish stock their unproductive waters an easy & cheap means of doing so.

—The Dansville Express says: "At Messrs. James & S. D. Faulkner's trout pond, under the supervision of Mr. Lon Tooles, large numbers of trout have been raised this season—upwards of 40,000 being now in the hatching-boxes, to be transported to the ponds soon."



## PISCICULTURE IN ONTARIO.

### MR. WILMOT'S ESTABLISHMENT.

There is no division of natural history that affords such an interesting study as that which relates to fish. There is probably no other about which such diversity of opinion still exists. There is no food so ready to the hand of man as are the denizens of river, lake, and ocean, and, yet, there is no gift of Nature's bounty destroyed so ruthlessly and persistently by selfish and ignorant men. To the many, a fish is a fish; a thing to be taken whenever and in what manner soever opportunity may afford, and the propriety of protecting fish during certain seasons of the year, is an idea that occurs to few, and has weight with fewer still. The many are, of course, insensible to the consideration of what is fair and sportsman-like; but they also ignore the fact that the death of every female fish killed during spawning season is the destruction of, on an average, 10,000 eggs, which were destined to become young fish, and they quite lose sight of the fact that even if the fish has deposited her ova, and is on her way to deeper water, she is lean, emaciated, and unfit for food. Nothing but the dread of legal penalties will deter the mass of people from the wholesale slaughter of fish, and even this fear is insufficient to restrain them, unless supported by the action of people residing in the neighbourhood of those places frequented by the fish. It is owing to these facts that the salmon have been almost exterminated in our waters, and that the brook trout and other fish are gradually disappearing. The mills, manufactories, &c., to the existence of which this calamity is usually ascribed, have doubtless done injury to fish, but they are comparatively harmless when weighed against the custom of destroying fish in the breeding season. The vast importance to Canada, which this subject possesses, and the suicidal course which is now being followed have given rise to a great deal of talking and writing, and to some action on the part of private individuals.

On the 16th of last November we published an account of the experiments in Pisciculture, which Mr. Samuel Wilmot, of Newcastle, was then conducting to an apparently successful issue, and we described the means that he was employing to repopulate the streams and waters of Lake Ontario with the *Salmo Salan*. He had at that date done much in furtherance of this object, because he had overcome, by reasoning away the jealousy and hostile opposition that attended his inaugurating a nursery for young Salmon, but his operations had been limited and carried on under circumstances which he thought could hardly be taken as a proof of their ultimate benefit. It was only in the fall of last year that he had completed those arrangements which enabled him to deal with the matter in a larger and more complete manner. During the fall of '66 and '67, Mr. Wilmot had hatched in his cellar some few Salmon eggs, obtained from a distance, and turned the young fish in to a creek that runs through his farm. These—called smolts—left the stream—in the ordinary course of nature when one year old and about five inches in length; but returned after a stay of a few months in salt water, weighing four or five pounds and measuring about fifteen inches, attaining that period of a salmon's existence

when he is called a grilse. After the departure of the smolts, Mr. Wilmot built houses and prepared the stream for the reception of the fish when they should return and in the fall of 1867 he obtained from his returning brood, and the full grown salmon that accompanied them, about 250,000 eggs which he laid down in his hatching house. These eggs having been taken, the fish were all turned out to make their way to the ocean and regain their flesh and strength. One only remained, a male grilse, and this little fellow's eccentricity will lead to an interesting experiment and possibly a valuable discovery. From the fact of his voluntarily remaining in the house, the question suggests itself, whether it is possible for salmon to winter in fresh water without losing the power of procreation? Unfortunately this solitary sojourner is a male and therefore more or less useless for testing purposes, but the hint that he has mutely given, will be acted on in the winter of 1869 when Mr. Wilmot purposes to retain some grilse and salmon of both genders, and so set at rest the vexed question of Ontario salmon recuperating without migrating. If it is found that Lake Ontario salmon are absolved from the laws which regulate the actions of other *Salmo Salar*, then Lake Ontario is doubly blessed; for not only does it possess elastic wealth, but it holds its riches in its own bosom secure from that temporary parting which naturalists and most sportsmen have declared an essential part of divine ordinances. Few people will believe that this fish remains in the lake; but it is possible that some vein of salt abuts into the lake, or even that a salt spring may exist that has not yet been discovered. Either of these circumstances might render the migration of salmon unnecessary.

We have before minutely described Mr. Wilmot's plans and appliances, and called special attention to the frames on which the eggs were placed to undergo the process of incubation, so that it is unnecessary now to do more than speak of results. When the eggs were laid down, the more active work ceased and anxiety commenced. This was Mr. Wilmot's first season in the new houses, and his plan of entirely removing the eggs from contact with those substances which surrounded them in a state of nature had yet to be tried. The theory that cleanliness conduces to the preservation of the eggs was very reasonable; but on the other hand the operation of cleaning them might be in some way injurious, and the removal of dirt, gravel, &c., might prove, for some unknown reason, to be a fatal mistake. Through the winter months, this doubt remained, while the daily work of removing bad eggs, and regulating other details continued. As time went by, doubt gave way to hope, hope to certainty, and when two months had elapsed, little specks in the eggs revealed the fact that the eyes were formed, the large palpitating heart showed life was there, and every day gave form and substance to the little starling, wriggling creature within. In this state they remained for some days, and then gradually burst through their prison, and dropped into the water; when having swam, or rather wriggled, round the sides of the enclosure, as if to see where they were, they quietly subsided, and lay on their side at the bottom of the boxes, remaining quiet in that position, except when disturbed. There are many thousands yet to be born; but, in nearly every

egg, a large pair of eyes are steadfastly staring into futurity. When the alevin, as he is called, bursts from the egg, he has a large bag of oil and other liquid attached to him, on which he lives for some time; and when this is consumed, he is compelled to hunt for his daily food. He is then a parr, after which he becomes a smolt, and when a year old takes advantage of the Spring freshets and drops down to the sea. He is back again in a few months, nearly four times the size he attained before leaving, and is at this time a grilse. Once more he is off before winter sets in, and if he escapes porpoises, seals, spears and nets, next appears in the pride of his Salmonhood, having gobbled up an innumerable quantity of small strangers and youthful relatives.

In addition to the Salmon ova here spoken of, Mr. Wilmot's experiments have extended to the eggs of the Whitefish, the Lake-trout, and a Hybrid having a Lake-trout mother and a grilse (Salmon) father.

The egg of the White-fish is, of course, smaller than that of the Salmon and requires rather less time in hatching. Like the Salmon, the eyes of the young fish are the first indications of its existence, and these in the young White-fish are remarkable perfect and brilliant. The egg looks like the head of Socrates—a round white ball with two eyes in the exact centre, but differs from that eminent Greek in being one of the most restless things in nature. While watching a batch of white-fish eggs, an observer will see the young fish kicking and jumping inside, and rolling his house about by his own efforts to get out. When he can and does appear, he comes tail first, and exhibits an amount of irritability and impatience, until he is clear of his hell, that is really surprising. The young salmon issues from his egg in a gradual and quiet manner; but the white-fish rushes about the bottom of his box, knocking against everything, and creating just such a commotion as does a cat who has fastened her head in a cream jug. The moment he is out he dashes round and round the surface of the water, trying to get out of the place, and day or night never seems to rest. Mr. Wilmot and the writer of this operated on the eggs of some white-fish, with the desire of hastening the appearance of the young. In a great many cases we were successful; the young fish remaining perfectly still during the operation, but dashing off the moment he was clear of his former dwelling. In some instances we punctured the umbilical bag, and so killed the fish; and, after numerous experiments, arrived at the conclusion that surgical operations of this nature should be avoided, as long as possible. The theory by which Mr. Wilmot explains the difference of demeanour in the alevin and the young fish, holds that the alevin remains in crevices and under gravel, in waters where he is more or less unlikely to be molested; but that the white-fish, being hatched in the lakes, becomes at once a prey to every kind of fish, and therefore seeks, by instinct, those parts of his native waters where he is least likely to be captured. As every movement of a young animal is prompted by instinct, and as this desire to leave the spots (shallows) where they were born appears to be unusual, it is more than probable that Mr. Wilmot's theory is correct. The experiments now being made with the eggs of the Lake Trout and the Hybrid between the Lake Trout and the Salmon are even more interesting than those which deal with the Salmon, pure, and the White-fish. The fact of the migratory nature of the Salmon necessitates a distribution of their wealth. A proportion will necessarily be killed by fishermen of Lower Canada, though that somewhat selfish consideration will be felt in a very minute degree, if the cultivation of Salmon is aided and protected. With the White-fish and the Lake-trout the case differs; they do not leave the waters of Ontario; where they are born they remain, and so prolific are they that the enforcement of the laws against killing fish in the spawning sea-



son will summe to keep us rich in this species. Neither one nor the other are, however, sufficiently protected at the present moment. These fish spawn in the winter, regain their body by the early spring, and are in their best condition during the summer and early fall months. This is ample time for their proper killing, which, if confined to this period, would create a regular paying trade, while it would ensure the continuance of the article which was bought and sold. As winter draws on the fat of the fish leaves the flesh and goes to fulfil a natural duty in the spawn, and at this time the fish should be protected with the same rigour that every one acknowledges is their due in the spawning season. As the law stands this object might be effected; but the practice of giving licences to fish through the ice, when the fish are ravenous and easily caught, in some measure stultifies it. On the other hand it may be remarked that no Government or official Inspectors can secure an end that the people themselves are too apathetic to promote. Government does all it can in making laws and appointing Inspectors to assist in their being carried out; but it must rest with the local residents themselves to protect their own property and insist that neither idle vagabonds nor trading fishermen shall unlawfully molest that which is a source of wealth and luxury to all.

The most novel and the most important experiment of all those made by Mr. Wilmot is his attempt to produce a cross between the lake-trout and the *salmo salar*. Curiosity is at once excited to know whether it will more nearly resemble the salmon or the trout; whether it will be a mule incapable of re-producing its kind; and above all, whether it will be a local or a migratory fish. If it is closely allied to the salmon, its value in the market will be proportionately large, though if it migrates it loses its special merit, because, without attaining a salmon's perfection, it shares the drawback under which he labours as an article of Ontario commerce. If again it proves to be a mule fish—when it would probably be local—it is unlikely to be so plentiful as other kinds, though hundreds of millions may annually be bred if the fish is thought worth producing.

Towards the end of November last Mr. Wilmot obtained some eggs of the Lake trout from some fishermen on the lake. As the season was so far advanced, the fish were scarce, and these eggs which he did secure were taken by him from dead fish, some of which had been lying for nearly an hour in the bottom of the boat. These eggs he impregnated—some with an milt of a grilse and the remainder with that of their own kind. As yet, however, no signs of life are apparent in the ova of the thorough-bred Lake-trout, while those of the cross are progressing slowly but surely. The young fish are clearly discernible in these latter, and appear to be much like the salmon, differing only in size and intensity of colour. The fact of the Lake-trout showing no signs of life may be due to their dead parentage. In their case both father and mother were dead before coming into Mr. Wilmot's hands; whereas in the other case the father was living, though the ova was taken from a dead fish. To some accident of this sort is, of course, due the non-appearance of the trout, but to their hatching or decaying very little importance attaches. It is a most unfortunate circumstance that the hybrid eggs were left uncovered in their boxes. Just when all doubts were removed as to the success of the attempt to cross these two fish, a rat found its way into the breeding place and devoured nearly all the hybrid eggs, passing by those of the lake trout, which could have been spared. A sufficient number, however, have been saved to thoroughly test the matter and determine the nature of the *salmo Wilmotinis*.

These experiments have now demonstrated the feasibility of raising any fish indigenous to Canadian waters, while it is more than likely that any British fish could also be propagated. There is no fresh water fish, however, worth having which is not found in Canada; and, if we

will only use the means at our disposal and follow the plain directions given by the fish themselves, we shall have around us a staple article of commerce and an inexhaustible mine of wealth, the importance or even reality of which appears to be at present totally unheeded. There is no country in the world that can compare with Canada in the natural advantages she possesses for trading in fish. From the Gulf of the St. Lawrence to the foot of the Rocky Mountains, the country is one network of lakes and streams; there is not a settlement without its neighbouring waters, and not a lake without its native fish. The product of these lakes and streams might be made an unfailing field for industry, an increasing source of national and individual wealth. Where fish have been exterminated, they can be reproduced; and all that nature asks when dispensing her gifts with a bounteous hand, is that her laws shall not be violated. They are easily obeyed, and when they are infringed, the crime must carry its punishment with it. Our salmon have been speared and netted at a season when they should be unmolested, and the consequence is that the shoals which once glistened in the St. Lawrence and the lakes are seen no more. Our speckled trout are fast going the same way, and were it not for such men as Mr. Wilmot, a few years would see our settled districts destitute of fish. It is now shown that salmon can be restored to our waters, and this spring over 200,000 will be preparing for their migration. Next year the number will be largely increased, and other kinds added, and in a few years one un-

aided man, by a force of perseverance and actuated by a desire to establish the truth of a great principle, will have done much to remedy the evil caused by the selfishness of ten thousand others. It is to be hoped that other gentlemen will follow Mr. Wilmot's example. To any one living on the banks of a stream or lake the matter is easy and interesting, and the writer ventures to say that if any one requires advice or direction as to the best method of proceeding, his application to Mr. Wilmot for the benefit of his experience, will be courteously and thoroughly answered. Whatever aid the writer can render will be freely given, and those who commence the experiment of breeding fish will find that their only anxiety will proceed from a desire to extend the sphere of their operations.

**SALMON IN THE THAMES.**—On Thursday afternoon, Mr Buckland received from Mr Lockey, of the Falcon Hotel, Gravesend, a beautiful little salmon, 7½ lb. in weight, and 26 in. in length, which was caught in the Long Reach by Thomas Shuttlewood, of Gravesend. A cast of the fish, and the fish itself (when Mr Buckland has got a bottle big enough to hold him) will be placed in the Museum of Economic Fish Culture, Royal Horticultural Gardens, Kensington. Who can tell, asks Mr Buckland, but that this very fish might have been hatched in our troughs at Hampton, or, may be, in the 2d Life Guards' Barracks, at Regent's Park, when he had a small hatching apparatus at work there?

**FINE IMPOSED FOR ILLEGAL FISHING IN BURLINGTON BAY.**—Thomas Cross was fined twelve dollars and costs on Saturday, for fishing for, catching and killing pike in Burlington Bay, at the Heights on Friday, the 5th of May; and also for having pike gill nets recently fished (being wet) and pike in his possession—caught by him—he having no license to fish for, or catch the same. Besides, no net license is allowed at any time by the fisheries department to be fished in the place where Thomas Cross was found fishing. Mr. Kerr and his assistant seized about 1,300 yards of pike gill net in the locality referred to last week.

**CLOSE SEASON FOR BASS.**—ANGLERS, PAY ATTENTION.—The close season for bass commences to-day, and will terminate on the 18th day of June next. During this close season no person can fish for, catch, buy, sell, or have bass of any kind in their possession—so that even angling for bass is not allowed nor permitted, and netting for them is prohibited. The law includes all the different species, to wit: Black bass, green bass, rock bass, white bass, speckled bass, and the Genesee bass. Mr. J. W. Kerr, fishery overseer, will be on the alert, so, anglers, it is just and proper that you should turn in and assist the Overseer to protect the fish, and closely observe the law.

Bass  
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